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No change in Soviet policy on ties, Jews

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Arab food firms go kosher on the West Bank

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Shamir: Unity in Herut or suicide

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir yesterday lashed out at the "factiousness" in Herut, describing the contest between his party's different camps as "an idiotic, insane struggle which borders on suicide."

Speaking to a Herut gathering in Kiryat Gat, Shamir said that Herut *must unite* "unless we want to commit suicide, to abandon authority to those who would surrender a large part of the territories of the Land of Israel, and to live in a society in which we would be lowly slaves of corporate and bank officials.

"We can establish 20 governments" with the talent in Herut, said Shamir, adding, "If we unite, our rule in Israel is ensured."

Without explicitly naming party rivals David Levy and Ariel Sharon, Shamir said that the inter-party divisions in Herut "were a matter of two or three individuals who should be persuaded by their supporters to stop the internal strife."

Shamir said that the Herut struggles "have no ideological" background. "It is uncontrollable" he said "like fighting a shadow, nothingness, a fog."

Referring to Herut's upcoming convention, Shamir said that he would "rather forget" the riotous first session of the convention.

"But we must complete the convention," he said, "I don't care what is decided, as long as the decision is made in an honourable way."

Shamir said that he would soon make "an additional effort" to ensure that Minister without Portfolio Yitzhak Moda'i "gets his rightful place."

He said that Moda'i (Likud-Liberal) "doesn't have many loyal friends" and that "if not for me he wouldn't be in the cabinet at all."

Earlier, Shamir blasted Egyptian Defence Minister Abu Ghazala's statement this week that Israel was Egypt's "principal and sole" enemy. "We are hearing the echoes of a doctrine which we thought had vanished from the land of the Nile," said Shamir.

He said that although we shouldn't exaggerate and say that the Egyptian army is rising against us, words do turn into deeds and Abu Ghazala's statement must be noted. "No peace lasts forever," said Shamir, and the peace with Egypt will continue only as long as Israel is strong.

Shamir said that Israel's enemies are anticipating a breakdown of Israel's internal resolve. "They believe that because of the many differences between parties, between sects, between the religious and the secular, a disintegration will take place and the people in Israel will lack the backbone" to defend themselves.

"From all the talk about peace" he added, "we won't be ready to stand firm" when our enemies attack.



Black-clad women held a demonstration at the Beirut University College and marched through the streets in West Beirut yesterday calling for the release of four professors kidnapped on January 24. (Reuter telephoto)

Coalition seen voting for the budget

Post Knesset Correspondent

Barring a last-minute revolt by the Likud Knesset faction against Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, the crisis between the Likud and the Alignment is expected to subside today, with the coalition as a whole voting for the 1987/88 State Budget bill on its first reading.

Nissim will meet with the Likud Finance Committee members at 11 a.m. this morning. He will try to convince his party colleagues that just as he will give the United Kibbutz Movement aid to reschedule its debts, he will propose financial aid *for moshavim in trouble, for debt*-ridden development townships, and for settlements in Judea and Samaria. (See moshav bail-out p. 9)

At a top-level meeting last night between Nissim and leaders of the two big factions, the Alignment undertook to get its MKs to approve the budget today on the first reading, as well as a series of related financial legislative proposals, which the plenum debated yesterday.

In return for that promise of good behaviour by the Alignment, which the night before threatened to sink *the budget if the kibbutzim did not* get their debt rescheduling, the Likud representatives also promised to cooperate.

The meeting agreed that Finance Committee chairman Avraham Shapira would decide when the debt rescheduling proposal, drafted by the Treasury, would be debated and voted on.

(An unwritten rider to this, accepted by all present, was that Shapira would be asked to table the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Reagan weighs military response if hostages killed in Lebanon

Sixth Fleet now only 80 km. away

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
and Agencies

WASHINGTON. – With U.S. warships of the Sixth Fleet 80 kilometres from the Lebanese coast, the U.S. Defence Department yesterday pointedly warned the terrorists holding American hostages in Lebanon that President Reagan was weighing a military response to any murder of Americans.

Pentagon spokesman Robert Sims said that the movement of several U.S. battleships into the eastern Mediterranean in recent days represented "a prudent stationing of our forces where they provide the greatest opportunity for the president to exercise whatever options he wishes."

He said that the U.S. ships "are certainly not a threat to anyone who is acting in a civilized way."

The State Department said: "Lest those who hold hostages forget, we hold them responsible for the well-being of their captives."

Sims said the U.S. aircraft carriers and accompanying vessels were in the region "in a precautionary way" and because "it is prudent for us to have them in that position." Specifically, he noted that "tensions in the region have increased with the taking of additional hostages, including Americans."

Other administration officials said that the actual use of a U.S. military option was unlikely unless more Americans were killed. But the murder of Americans, they warned, would almost certainly trigger a military response.

"You can talk about 'options' all you want, but I don't see us doing a thing to endanger those people."

Prime Minister Shamir said yesterday that Israel had not been asked by the U.S. to provide any help regarding possible military action in Lebanon to free American hostages.

"We have not been asked," Shamir told reporters during his tour of Kiryat Gat. "I don't think we will be asked. But, if we are asked, we will consider it," the PM said.

one of the officials, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters.

"What could you realistically do that would not put hostages in additional danger?" another official asked.

The State Department spokesman said the Soviet Union currently has 21 naval vessels in the Mediterranean compared to 35 American ships, including two amphibious groups with 1,900 marines in them. The marines have helicopters and "other equipment," he noted.

The move into the western Mediterranean by the amphibious assault ship Inchon and four escorts from Rota, Spain, swelled the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean to 25 combat ships and 10 support vessels, the Pentagon spokesman said.

The fleet includes two aircraft carrier battle groups in the eastern Mediterranean, keeping a close watch on Lebanon.

Sims also announced that the U.S. aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk had moved into the Indian Ocean, with nine escort ships within the past two days from the Philippenes.

The spokesman would not comment further on deployments of the aircraft carriers Nimitz and John F. Kennedy in the eastern Mediterranean, or the Kitty Hawk. But Pentagon officials said earlier they *expected the Kitty Hawk to operate in* the Northern Arabian sea.

A group calling itself Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine on Monday night repeated its threat to kill the four men unless Israel freed 400 jailed Arabs within a week.

Hussein Musawi, the militant Shi'ite chief of the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad, yesterday challenged the United States to send men to Lebanon to "have face-to-face combat with our Moslem fighters," and said

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Judge Malz elected state comptroller

By DVORAH GETZLER
Post Knesset Reporter

Tel Aviv District Court Judge Ya'acov Malz was yesterday elected by the Knesset House Committee as the country's fourth state comptroller.

But the man charged with ensuring the integrity of public life was chosen by a series of tricky political maneuvers influenced by past, present and future relationships between the two big parties, and not a little muscle flexing by the smaller parties.

Yesterday's antics in the House Committee, or rather in the corridors and back offices of the Knesset, demonstrated the national unity government's dilemma: it all works more or less well until the big two squabble. When that happens, the smaller parties, as they showed *yesterday, can effectively swing the* balance as they choose.

When the committee convened at 9 o'clock yesterday morning there were some 10 candidates. All but three were withdrawn just before the first vote.

Prior to the vote, the committee had agreed that in light of the clumsy political lobbying surrounding the candidacies (and particularly in view of Labour's obduracy in backing former civil service commissioner Ya'acov Nitzan) the first vote would have to produce an absolute majority if there was not to be a second round.

The first vote produced eight in favour of Nitzan (seven Labour votes and one Shinui), 10 for former Interior Ministry director-general Haim Kubersky (six Likud and four religious parties) and one (Democratic Front for Peace and Equality) for Dr. Wolf Ehrlich. Thus, there was no absolute majority and the committee then went into recess until 2 p.m.

It had also been agreed prior to the vote was that if there was a second ballot new names could be presented on condition that they were backed by 10 signatures.

The hour of the small opposition parties had struck.

Citizens Rights Movement MK Yossi Sarid, who has long felt that the comptroller should be neutral politically, convened his Shinui, Mapam and DFPE colleagues.

He argued that although the Labour Alignment's whip, Rafi Edri, had anxiously solicited his support for Hebrew University law professor Shimon Shetreet, and although he himself had earlier favoured that candidacy, political non-identification seemed to point to the choice of a member of the *judiciary.*

At that point, Sarid told *The Jerusalem Post*, the Tehiya's Geula Cohen burst into the room, loudly urging that it was high time the small parties made their weight felt. For Cohen, so it would seem, the urge to play king-maker was strong enough to overcome her antipathy to Sarid, with whom she has not spoken for some time.

"That's just what we're up to," Sarid answered her.

But even in the small parties it wasn't all plain sailing. Mapam and the DFPE hesitated, though Shinui agreed immediately to go for a judge.

Malz's name, *The Post* learned, was first raised several weeks ago by Likud MK Dov Shilansky, who passed the idea on to Labour's Moshe Shahal. When there was no feedback from Labour – a failure ascribed to Vice Premier Shimon Peres's commitment to Nitzan – the idea was

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

'Nothing to worry about'

Knesset panel hears Irangate figures

Post Knesset correspondent
and agencies

Two figures involved in the Irangate affair yesterday briefed a subcommittee of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and one MK who heard them later told *The Jerusalem Post:* "My impression is that Israel has nothing to worry about as a result of the Senate Intelligence Committee report."

Amiram Nir, the prime minister's counter-terror adviser, and David Kimche, former director-general of the Foreign Ministry, gave the secret subcommittee their versions of the events surrounding the sale of arms to Iran and allegations that money from these sales went to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

The two men appeared at separate meetings and did not hear what the other had said. Nir will appear again today.

One member of the subcommittee said later: "On the basic facts, there is no contradiction between Israel's position and the position of the U.S."

Subcommittee members agreed that the Senate report was at fault in that it contained nothing from Israeli sources and did not cover all the relevant American sources.

The Post was told: "Israeli figures should not appear before foreign committees. If the U.S. approaches the Israeli government, it will be supplied with the requisite information from those involved."

According to diplomatic sources in Washington, Israel will give its account of the Iranian arms deals to congressional investigators in the form of written testimony that will stress Israel's role as a helpful middleman for the U.S.

Terms of the arrangement for Israel's cooperation in the probes have been temporarily worked out between Washington and Jerusalem *in the last few days.*

Initiative said back to Iraq

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. – Iraq appears to have regained the initiative over Iran in the continuing battle over Basra, U.S. Defence Department officials said yesterday.

The Pentagon officials said that Iraq, over the weekend, brought in more infantry and armour and managed to dislodge the Iranians from some of the "beachhead" positions that they had won near the Shatt-al-Arab, east of the key city in southern Iraq. The Iraqis were now reported to be engaged in a massive counter-attack.

But fierce fighting was continuing yesterday with shelling of the area by both sides. U.S. intelligence estimated that some 200,000 Iranians are in the area. As of last week, the Iranians appeared to have the upper hand in the struggle for Basra, the second largest Iraqi city.

"There is nothing that has abated *in that violent war, but there does* seem to have been a stabilization in the last two or three days with the initiative in the Basra area now being with the Iraqis," said a Pentagon spokesman.

The U.S. has six ships in the Persian Gulf with the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk also moving to the area *through the Indian Ocean. President* Reagan has pledged to keep the Strait of Hormuz open to international shipping.

(See story – Page 3)

Classes end at 10:30 a.m.

Many Jerusalem school classes will be dismissed at 10:30 a.m. *today* to enable their teachers – members of the Histadrut Teachers Union – to demonstrate outside the Knesset at 11 a.m.

The strike will not include kindergartens, first and second grades, and special education classes.

McFarlane: Israel didn't cram Iran deal down our throats

Special to The Jerusalem Post
By the New York Times
Syndication Service

Former U.S. national security adviser Robert McFarlane remains convinced that the goals behind the Iranian arms deal were sound and proper. In an interview with American journalist Trude B. Feldman, McFarlane said, "I don't think the president has any regrets as to his intentions."

The whole affair started, says McFarlane, in the summer of 1985 in Washington. He says he was alerted by Israel's then-director-general of the Foreign Ministry David Kimche, that Israel had identified a circle of people in Iran interested in better relations with the U.S.

Kimche, he says, told him that high-level Iranians had shown evidence that they would try to modify Iran's policy of interfering with the flow of Arab oil through the Persian Gulf. These high-level officials were also said to be interested in halting Iranian policies designed to subvert stable regimes elsewhere in the Arabian peninsula.

Does this mean that the initiative for the affair was therefore an Israeli one? According to McFarlane: "It wasn't an initiative on either side. It was a matter of Israel learning something, telling us about it, being open to any decision, not insisting upon it. But when we decided to go ahead and try to exploit it, Israel was willing to help. That's all one can ask of a good ally. She wasn't cramming something down our throats."

On learning of Israel's information, McFarlane says the first thing the U.S. had to do was determine whether these Iranian officials were genuine in their relative moderation. McFarlane says the Iranians' good intentions were proved by their willingness to take risks in providing the U.S. with "substantial" information.

But before long McFarlane received another message from Kimche which this time pointed out the vulnerability of these Iranian moderates. If they were to survive they needed to expand their constituency to include elements of Iran's army or the Revolutionary Guards, or both. This could only be done by supplying them with arms.

McFarlane says he then related the facts to President Reagan who, he said, indicated an understanding of the value of the dialogue with the moderates, their vulnerability and the need to strengthen them.

"But the president cautioned that if that (providing arms) was done directly, it would be portrayed not as seeking a political dialogue, but as trading arms for hostages," McFarlane adds. "The president said we cannot do that."

What happened next, says McFarlane, is that "I conveyed the president's concern to the Israelis...and I believe that is what inspired Israel, ultimately, then, to transfer weapons ...Apparently, that took place in late August or September of 1985 and again in November."

The president, according to his former national security adviser, understood the risks and also approved of Israel purchasing replacements for any arms transfers that Israel might make to Iran.

This issue of whether Reagan approved beforehand the Israeli transfer of arms has been disputed in congressional testimony.

(Continued on Page 4)

'No wish to join sanctions on SA'

Jerusalem Post Staff

"We have no reason to highlight our relations with South Africa, but we have no wish to join sanctions either, the likes of which have often been employed against Israel," Prime Minister Shamir yesterday told reporters on a tour of Kiryat Gat.

In Cape Town, South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha told foreign correspondents that it was "vengeful and presumptuous" for Americans to attempt to pressure Israel into adopting anti-South African measures such as sanctions.

He said it was frequently suggested there was something sinister in Israeli-South African relations. "*This is not* true," he said.

Although Arab states refuse to acknowledge any ties with South Africa, Botha said in fact his government had good relations with at least two Arab countries and good contacts with four or five others.

French to try Lebanese suspect

PARIS (Reuter). – Suspected terrorist chief Georges Ibrahim Abdallah whose associates unleashed a bombing campaign in Paris last September to press for his release, will go on trial for murder on *February* 23, authorities said yesterday.

Abdallah, 35, is charged with complicity in the 1982 killings of U.S. military attache Charles Ray and Israeli diplomat Ya'acov Barsimantov in Paris. He is also charged with complicity in a failed bid to kill *the U.S.* Consul-General in Strasbourg, Robert Homme, in 1984.

Police believe that Abdallah, a Lebanese Christian, is leader of the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions which claimed responsibility for the two Paris killings.



They could qualify for the award if they stop now. (Eliahu Harati)

Orthodox group launches $50,000 lottery in anti-smoking drive

By JUDY SIEGEL
Post Science and Health Reporter

Jerusalemites who have stopped smoking for at least five years will be entitled to participate in a drawing for a prize of $50,000, as the start of an anti-cigarette campaign initiated by the ultra-Orthodox organization Rafa. The prize will later be extended to smokers all over the country.

Rabbi Yehoshua Scheinberger, head of Rafa (an acronym for the Hebrew words for Medicine According to Halacha), *known as the "health minister" of the "Eda* Haredit" told *The Jerusalem Post* that the $50,000 prize is being donated by a group af secular and religious Jews in Los Angeles.

The first drawing for the prize will be held in two years, says Scheinberger. Subsequent lotteries of former smokers will be held every three years. The first drawing is open to religious and secular Jews in Jerusalem. Eventually, says Scheinberger, it will include former smokers around the country.

Applicants can sign up by requesting forms pledging that they are giving up smoking, obtainable from Rafa, at POB 3518, Jerusalem.

Scheinberger, who has launched a one-man campaign against smoking in the ultra-Orthodox and religious *communities, admits that he has had difficulty persuad*ing prominent rabbis to declare smoking against Halacha (Jewish law).

A number of them are chain-smokers themselves, and disregard medical evidence that smoking causes cancer and heart disease.

But he says he will ask two of the most prominent ultra-Orthodox rabbis, Rabbi Eliezer Schach and Rabbi Yitzhak Weiss of the Eda Haredit – both non-smokers *themselves – to declare that they will walk out of any* wedding they're invited to if they see other guests smoking.

"This should do something to cut smoking in the community, because to have such rabbis leave a wedding is shameful to the participants," says Scheinberger.

Participants in the anti-smoking lottery will have to sign a statement saying they have not smoked for five years. They will also commit themselves to paying a penalty if they are seen smoking.

Scheinberger claims that a small computerized device placed in the mouth like a thermometer can detect whether a person has smoked and when. This should keep the applicants honest, he says.

The weather at major Swissair destinations

3.2.87

	MIN. C	MIN. F	MAX. C	MAX. F	
AMSTERDAM	1	34	3	37	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	0	32	4	39	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	18	64	29	84	Clear
CHICAGO	-4	25	10	50	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-5	23	3	36	Clear
FRANKFURT	-8	18	0	32	Cloudy
GENEVA	0	32	4	39	Cloudy
HELSINKI	-2	28	0	32	Cloudy
HONG KONG	14	57	20	68	Clear
JOHANNESBURG	14	57	29	84	Cloudy
LISBON	11	52	16	61	Clear
LONDON	6	43	11	52	Cloudy
MADRID	7	45	11	52	Rain
MONTREAL	-6	18	-4	25	Snow
NEW YORK	1	33	10	50	Clear
OSLO	-6	23	-5	23	Cloudy
PARIS	2	36	6	43	Cloudy
RIO DE JANEIRO	24	75	37	98	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	19	66	30	86	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-6	21	1	34	Cloudy
TOKYO	1	34	5	41	Cloudy
TORONTO	-2	28	2	36	Cloudy
VIENNA	-20	-4	-3	27	Cloudy
ZURICH	-8	17	-3	27	Cloudy

"For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Rain will stop at midday, and the forecast for Thursday is no rain.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	76	9-13	12
Golan	87	10-12	11
Nahariya	—	——	18
Safad	92	8-11	11
Haifa Port	78	—16	17
Tiberias	64	13-12	18
Nazareth	88	7-14	13
Afula	87	14-17	17
Shomron	80	11-13	13
Tel Aviv	76	15-20	18
B-G Airport	73	12-18	18
Jericho	45	13-22	21
Gaza	74	13-18	18
Beersheba	50	11-18	18
Eilat	26	17-24	22

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel yesterday received Samuel Hill, Speaker of the Liberian House of Representatives at the Knesset and hosted him to lunch.

Also at the Knesset yesterday, MK Ehud Olmert hosted to lunch a parliamentary delegation of the Australian Liberal Party.

The Haifa Rotary Club will hold a business meeting in the Shulamit Hotel at 1 p.m. today.

'Cute' PM fed, mobbed, ignored, cornered, quizzed

It's Yitzhak Shamir day in Kiryat Gat

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Every Tuesday Prime Minister Shamir tries to act like an old-fashioned politician. Yesterday, his advisers bundled the Likud leader off to Kiryat Gat, to inaugurate some public buildings, shake little children's hands, receive awards and trophies and invigorate party stalwarts in the only city in which the Likud enjoys an absolute majority in the municipal institutions.

Shamir's day started off at Mayor Ze'ev Boim's offices with the traditional welcome of bread, salt and wine. Over a conference table lavished with pickings fit for a Caesar's banquet, Shamir issues his first political statement of the day, telling municipal counsellors "not to pay any attention to the storms in Jerusalem. What's important", he says, "is what is being done here, not the arguments there."

A new community dental clinic is next and, handily nearby, a centre for the elderly is also being inaugurated. On entering, Shamir is mobbed by admiring septuagenerians and octogenerians. In the midst of the hubbub, three stately elders continue their game of rummy, unperturbed. "What, the prime minister is here?," asks one. "Is that any reason to stop a good game of rummy?"

At his next stop, Shamir is cornered by the manager of a rubber and plastics factory, who for half-an-hour does not let go of the prime minister's arm. He does not surrender even a minute of the time alloted to him, maintaining a constant whisper in Shamir's somewhat beleaguered ear on the virtues of his products.

Shamir strolls through the factory assembly lines where young female employees smile bashfully at him and he smiles even more shyly in return. A factory manager grumbles on the side that "Peres would have stopped all the work here, grabbing hands, asking questions, working the crowds. The workers were expecting a more personal touch."

Shamir is then taken to meet Kiryat Gat's 12th grade students, next year's enlisting soldiers and first-time voters. He dutifully jots down the questions, the contents of which have been submitted in advance to the prime minister's bureau.

Shamir tells the students that "the achievements of the terrorist organizations are negligible compared to their objectives." He objects to the term "*goyim* kill *goyim*" when asked about the Iran-Iraq war. He calls the war a "crazy, illogical fight the cause of which no one remembers and in which people are getting killed." Shamir says that the weapons used in that war, including the chemical arsenal, may one day be employed against Israel "and whoever does so will pay dearly."

The prime minister informs the 12th graders that the chief of general staff "is one of the most central and important roles in the leadership of the country's security forces."

His answer to a query on the recent acquisition of six new Volvos for ministers ("one cannot expect a minister to run around on foot or go in taxis") is received with disapproving murmurs. But he ends on an obviously-popular note, saying that the "unity of hearts within the Jewish people takes precedence over any other unity" referring to a question on the advisability of Arab-Jewish youth get togethers.

After Shamir leaves, a pupil says that "he was alright" but her friend's assessment is more positive: "he's very cute," she says.

Now it's time for another inauguration, this time of a day-care centre for children of families in distress. Shamir enters the institution's animal pen, keeping well away from the two donkeys, three crows and a family of goats, again frustrating the eager photographers.

The prime minister smiles as some of the centre's children, dressed as yeshiva students, recite and sing in Yiddish with strong Sabra accents. Soon he also catches his first nap of the day, but wakes up in time to join the general applause.

Lunch is held in the city's social and economic club. Shamir receives the key to the city "which only our cherished Begin ever got before." After half-a-day of whispered greetings and short speeches, Shamir delivers a forceful address to Kiryat Gat's leaders who have assembled in the hall bedecked with local artists' paintings.

Shamir sharply attacks Egyptian Defence Minister Mohammed Abdel-Halimi Abu Ghazala, lashes out at the "sensationalism" surrounding the appointment of Dan Shomron as army chief of general staff, calls for an "enlargement of the pie" in order to meet Israel's economic needs, and declares that the national unity government "still has a lot of work to do."

Shamir's advisers allocate a few minutes for an American television crew. After three short questions – and even shorter answers – he turns to his media advisor, Yossi Ahimeir, and asks "It's enough, no? We can finish now."

Not yet. Shamir still has to go to a private meeting of Kiryat Gat's Herut branch. He hears complaints about internal strife in the party, but says that he is short of time, for he still has to meet "a tall man called Pickering," showing with his hand how tall the U.S. ambassador is.

Next Tuesday the prime minister will tour some other place. He has been convinced that it's part and parcel of his job. It's doubtful, though, whether he will ever pick up the politician's joviality and boisterousness. Enough is enough.

Soviet policy unchanged

By Post Diplomatic Correspondent

There is no change in Soviet policy towards Jewish emigration or towards the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel, senior officials in Jerusalem said yesterday, reacting to a spate of press reports.

The origin of the reports, say the officials, is in a conversation last week between Israel's ambassador to Washington, Meir Rosen, and his Soviet counterpart "during a social gathering." The Soviets, said the officials, had "merely reiterated the Soviet stand in last August's Helsinki talks, in which Moscow expressed an interest in sending a delegation to Israel to sort out various consular affairs."

At Helsinki, Israel made the visit of such a delegation contingent on "reciprocity" – a visit by an Israeli consular delegation to the Soviet Union. The Soviets, unhappy with the concept of reciprocity, let the matter drop.

During a visit to Kiryat Gat yesterday, Prime Minister Shamir confirmed reports of contacts with the Soviet Union, but described them as "still too weak." He said he supported contacts with Moscow.

The prime minister reiterated his opposition to an international peace conference with the participation of the Soviet Union. He did not think such a conference would take place, or that, if it did, it would serve the cause of peace.

The meeting between the two ambassadors was described yesterday in Jerusalem as one "of the routine contacts between the two countries." But the officials "favourably noted" the fact that the Soviets had once again mentioned the idea of sending a delegation to Israel.

Israel, for its part, remained firm about the conditions set for Soviet participation in an international conference for Middle East peace – re-establishment of relations and a change in Soviet emigration policy.

Israeli officials said that despite some recent hints of a readiness to allow 10,000 Jews to emigrate within a family reunion framework, there have not yet been any "convincing" signs of an imminent change in Moscow's emigration policy.

The officials said that the "slightly" higher emigration figures for last month conformed to the usual pattern in emigration from the Soviet Union, wherein the figures for the first months of each years are traditionally slightly higher than for the succeeding months. "It has something to do with the workings of Soviet bureaucracy and emigration quotas," said the officials. Months may pass before it becomes clear whether a change of emigration policy is imminent.

New comptroller:

Unessential issues often blown up

Jerusalem Post Staff

The newly appointed state comptroller, Judge Ya'acov Malz, warned yesterday aginst the tendency to exaggerate certain issues beyond their importance.

"There are unimportant matters that, for some reason, are blown up out of proportion, while on the other hand no attention is given to important issues where change is required," he told Israel Radio.

"I'd like to strive to put things in their correct proportion so that each issue will be treated on its merits and not on its publicity value," Malz said.

Malz confessed that he was "rather surprised" at his appointment. He heard about his candidacy only yesterday at noon, he said. He suggested that his appointment shows a growing awareness "that certain positions should be manned not by political figures, but by neutral ones, with personal qualifications rather than party affiliations."

Malz, 63, has served as a Tel Aviv District Court judge since 1979. Last year he was appointed as an acting justice on the Supreme Court.

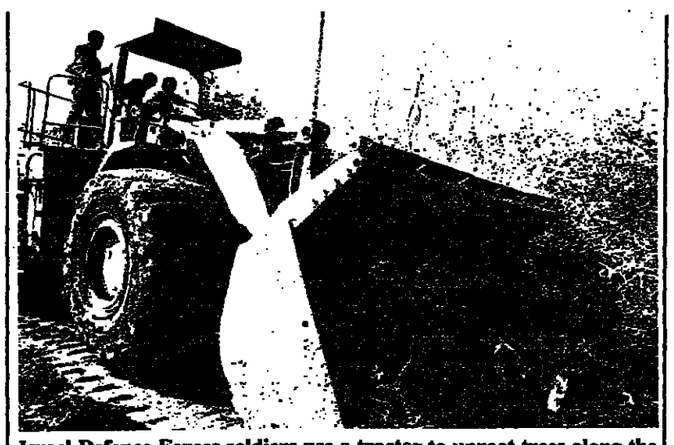
He began his career as an officer at National Police Headquarters, after receiving his law licence in 1948. He then joined a private law firm and later entered into partnership with former state comptroller Yitzhak Tunik.

In 1970 he opened a law firm, dealing mainly in civil cases, and practised there until his appointment to the District Court nine years later.

Among the cases over which he presided was that of "kerosene injector" Moshe Levy, who was convicted two years ago of killing his wife and of attempting to murder his girl friend by injecting them with kerosene.

He also ordered the arrest of John Demjanjuk, the alleged Treblinka death camp guard, now awaiting trial.

Court circles last night described him as "wise, diligent, organized and possessing a sharp sense of humour."



Israel Defence Forces soldiers use a tractor to uproot trees along the Gaza-Khan Yunis road yesterday. The trees were being removed for security reasons, following the recent spate of incidents in the Gaza Strip. (Andre Brutmann)

3 Arab youths held for throwing acid on girls

GAZA (Itim). – Three Arab teenagers who allegedly threw acid on local schoolgirls because they refused to join an anti-Israel demonstration, were arrested earlier this week, police announced yesterday.

Police sources said the youths, aged 16 and 17, confessed to their involvement in the incident after lengthy interrogation.

The youths entered the Ahmed Shawki girls school on Sunday and demanded that the pupils join demonstrations protesting last week's deportation of a Khan Yunis student, and the subsequent killing of a 15-year-old protester who tried to evade police. When the girls refused, the youths threw acid on them. Twelve girls were injured and taken for treatment to the Shifa hospital.

Army bulldozers yesterday cleared away underbrush from Gaza Strip roads in order to destroy cover for stone-throwing at passing Israeli vehicles.

Settlers who have camped out at the Dir al Balah intersection to protest recent attacks on them returned home after a visit by MK Rafael Eitan (Tehiya). They told Eitan the IDF had beefed up security in the area.

Eitan blamed the unrest on "hesitant and inconsistent" government policy in the Gaza Strip. He said he would work to realize the settlers' demands to establish two new settlements in the area.

Tehiya movement spokesman Avi Farhan, who lives in the Elei Sinai settlement, called for the uprooting of orchards and the destruction of houses from which Israeli cars have been attacked.

Rubinstein opposed to 'status quo' toward SA

Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein says he is "surprised" at and "deeply disappointed" by the attitude of the Labour Party cabinet ministers, "not one of whom" has publicly come out for the imposition of sanctions against South Africa. "The matter has not even been debated in Labour forums," he notes.

During the past weeks the Shinui minister has lobbied among his cabinet and Knesset colleagues in an effort to drum up opposition to the current government policy of maintaining the *status quo* with regard to ties with South Africa. "Were the issue to be debated in cabinet, two or three Labour ministers would probably support my stand. But such a debate is very unlikely as it's Prime Minister Shamir's prerogative to keep it off the agenda."

Despite such stonewalling, the issue will be debated within the next few weeks in the Knesset, Rubinstein predicts. He has been assured by a number of Labour MKs that they will force a debate; Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset Defence and Foreign Relations Committee, has *also promised a discussion of the* issue in his key committee.

Rubinstein – like Foreign Ministry director-general for political affairs Yossi Beilin – believes that Israel should not lag behind the European Community and the U.S. in imposing sanctions on South Africa, whose "racist apartheid system" he finds abhorrent. "It would be a mistake for Israel if in the end it is forced [by the West and by the fear of falling out with the U.S. Congress] to impose sanctions instead of doing it of its own free will. Israel, a nation populated by victims of racism, cannot stand aside," he says.

Rubinstein quickly assures me that he is "no starry-eyed liberal. I am not ignoring the real problem faced by South Africa's whites. I do take account of the position of South African Jewry. I am well aware of the West's hypocrisy in this matter. And I know what has happened in the so-called liberated states of black Africa. But none of this erases the 'original sin' which is the apartheid regime."

Last week Rubinstein sent a strongly-worded letter to Prime Minister Shamir, calling on him to reassess Israel's policy towards South Africa...and to impose sanctions similar to the EEC's on Pretoria. Rubinstein wrote that this is a dictate "both of morality and national interest."

He argues that South Africa is moving inexorably towards a radical change of regime which, while not necessarily offering "one man, one vote" in the near future, will result in the scrapping of apartheid and a measure of real political power for blacks. Israel will then want friends among the black leaders. Rubinstein believes that sooner or later, Israel will have to join the West and impose sanctions.

Turning to the Middle East, Rubinstein says the peace process – which he supports emphatically – "is completely stuck." He is deeply pessimistic about the chances of convening an "international conference," partly because of the conditions attached to its meeting by Foreign Minister Peres and partly because of realities and positions in the Arab world.

He points out that Jordan is now less ready to move on a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation than it was a year ago. And the PLO remains as obdurate as ever. "I have seen no word, no gesture, no declaration, no document indicating that the PLO is now more ready for peace with Israel than it had been in the past," says Rubinstein, who seems to regard that organization or its present leadership as fossilized. But were it to change its basic outlook, and accept the "Yariv-Shemtov formula" (acceptance of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and renunciation of terrorism), then Rubinstein would countenance the PLO's participation in the negotiating process.

Rubinstein visited Egypt some two months ago. "None of the Egyptian leaders I talked to were able to provide a shred of evidence showing that the PLO has changed its stand to-

IN PERSON
BENNY MORRIS



Amnon Rubinstein (Ippa)

wards Israel," he says. In Egypt itself, many of the country's leaders reiterated "sincerely" their commitment to peace with Israel. "And my trip received good press coverage – though nothing at all was mentioned in Egyptian TV and radio." Rubinstein feels that Israel is "discriminated against in the Egyptian media. We cannot even get newspapers to publish paid ads stating when our consulate is open."

Rubinstein adds that the "process of Islamisation" is clearly apparent in Egypt's streets. He notices a distinct change of mood from his previous visit in 1982. "Ads for alcoholic beverages, for example, are nowhere on display," he says.

LOTTO. – In yesterday's national lottery draw, the following numbers were picked: 3, 9, 18, 20, 23, 31, and the additional number, 22.

BUDGET

(Continued from Page One)

debt rescheduling proposal by the end of the week.)

In return, the Alignment representatives promised that their faction would not filibuster on any future government proposals of a financial nature. The reference was to future proposals to help moshavim, development towns, and Judea and Samaria settlers, proposals which have not yet been aired at cabinet, but which many Likud MKs have been advocating as a "balance" to assistance for the kibbutzim.

At the coalition leaders' meeting, Nissim attacked his Likud colleagues, asking "do you think that the kibbutzim are not part of the country? Are we to let them collapse because of their political colour?"

Transport Minister Haim Corfu, who attended the meeting as one of the ministers appointed as liaison between the government and the Knesset, told *The Jerusalem Post*: "The obstacles to the budget bill have been removed, assuming that Nissim calms the Likud faction down in the morning. Both big factions have promised to behave in a more responsible manner in the Finance Committee. We have re-affirmed the principle that the coalition must implement financial arrangements settled at cabinet level, and tabled by the Finance Minister".

COMPTROLLER

(Continued from Page One)

quietly dropped.

Sarid said that Malz was the man whom Shinui leader Amnon Rubinstein had wanted as attorney-general.

It is also known that Rubinstein's colleague Mordechai Virshubski holds Malz in high esteem. Cynics in the Knesset said that given the poor relations between Rubinstein and Virshubski the joint endorsement speaks volumes.

Another judge, Ya'acov Terkel, was unacceptable to most of the small parties, because of his right-wing views.

With the small parties more or less united, committee chairman Micha Reiser approached Sarid with "an offer you can't refuse."

If Sarid could come up with the name of a judge, and deliver the votes of the small parties, Reiser said, the Likud committee members would throw their weight behind the nomination.

Malz's agreement was sought around midday.

At this point there was a futher development, this time in the National Religious Party, whose support – via the vote of committee member David Danino – hd been actively canvassed by the Alignment for Shetreet.

According to a number of sources, the Alignment was trying to play a Sephardi card – Shetreet is a Sephardi, and Labour believed hs candidacy would win them the support of Aharon Abuhatzeira (Tami) and Danino.

But support for the Alignment was not to the liking of NRP party functionaries. The party's doyen, Dr. Yosef Burg, was summoned from his home to pressure Danino. Danino stood firm, but Burg is said to have replied that he would replace Danino on the committee (which it is the faction's privilege to so) and he would vote for a judge.

"He behaved like a real leader," a party source told *The Post*.

In Labour, David Libai, who chairs the Knesset State Comptroller's Committee, decided to break ranks, though that meant incurring the displeasure of some of his party colleagues. He later told *The Post* that with the first vote over he had felt free to back a judge, since he had urged such a candidate from the outset.

But Labour as a whole, Sarid reported, had resisted all his approaches for a united, non-partisan front.

The Shetreet candidacy had proven a non-starter, since it lacked the necessary 10 signatures, and the final vote produced 16 for Malz, with the remaining six Alignment stalwarts voting for Nizan.

In a final ceremonial vote, the committee unanimously endorsed the new comptroller. The unity act was put together again.

Army confiscates weapons from yeshiva students

By JOEL GREENBERG

The army has confiscated weapons from students at a yeshiva at Joseph's Tomb in Nablus as part of a probe into a shooting incident at the nearby Balata refugee camp.

Military sources said "a number" of guns issued by the army had been confiscated into the course of the investigation into an incident two weeks ago, in which yeshiva students fired shots in the air near Balata after stones were thrown at a vehicle carrying yeshiva students.

The students, who live in settlements near Nablus, said this week that if the guns were not returned, they would request military escort on trips into Nablus.

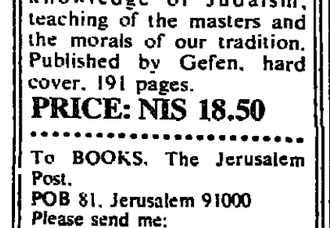
No special ID number for Brazilian babies

By DVORAH GETZLER
Post Knesset Reporter

Pressure by Citizens Rights Movement MKs has wrested from the interior minister an undertaking to do away with the "20" prefix on the identity card registrations of babies adopted in Brazil. The ministry has thus also gone back on its repeated denials that any such identification of the children exists on the ID card.

The CRM's Dedi Zucker made his parliamentary debut last December with a motion for the agenda on the subject. But then-interior minister Yitzhak Peretz, of the ultra-Orthodox Shas party, had denied that there was such a special number.

The party yesterday pointed out that its leader, Shulamit Aloni, had met with senior Interior Ministry officials who strenuously denied the existence of this very public form of identification.



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Future plans of three generals still up in air

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. – Aluf Ori Orr, Aluf Ehud Barak and Aluf Amir Drori, annoyed by the cabinet's decision to appoint Aluf Dan Shomron as the IDF's next Chief of General Staff yesterday still maintained a cloud of uncertainty over their own future plans.

All three had threatened to resign if Shomron was chosen but it remains to be seen whether they plan to implement their original intention.

Barak, currently O/C Central Command, who has the most to lose if he quits, since he stands a good chance of succeeding Shomron, has not even hinted to his closest associates what he plans to do, a well placed source said.

There were conflicting reports on whether military colleagues and politicians were urging Barak to stay on. The army radio station, *Galei Zahal*, yesterday evening reported such appeals but did not identify the people who had made them. A source close to Barak said he was not aware of any such calls. Barak himself is not willing to talk publicly on the subject.

Regarding Orr, observers familiar with the complex personal relationships among the top IDF commanders said they could not see him agreeing to serve as Shomron's deputy. Orr said that he would not reveal his plans before meeting with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Orr's departure would not vacate a position in the General Staff because his current assignment, conducting a course for senior officers, is temporary.

On the other hand, Drori's expected resignation from the post of deputy GCS would open a slot, leading to speculation about who is likely to succeed him.

One candidate could be Aluf Haim Erez, 49, formerly O/C Southern Command. Erez is now in England, on what was originally conceived as a year's study-leave prior to his retirement.

TOMORROW –
HAGA (Civil Defence) Exercise in Be'er Ya'acov

Tomorrow, Thursday, February 5, there will be a Haga exercise in Be'er Ya'acov. During the exercise, the sound of firing and sirens will be heard. In the event of a real attack, the sirens will sound a rising and falling note.

/e191-06 f23

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of

HAIM ETTINGER

a long-time employee of The Jerusalem Post Press.

The funeral cortege will leave today from the municipal funeral parlour in Romema, Jerusalem.
For more details, please call: 631256 or 535873.

ברוך דיין האמת

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of

SHMUEL DAVID APPELBAUM ז"ל

The funeral took place on Monday, February 2, 1987.
Shiva at 30 Rehov Mahal, Jerusalem.

The Family

The unveiling of the tombstone for our beloved

HY JACOBSEN ז"ל

will take place on Friday, February 6, 1987 at 10:30 a.m.
at the Holon cemetery. We will meet at the gate.

Sonia
Jeffrey, David and family

Landslide referendum victory expected

Aquino to muzzle military

MANILA – President Corazon Aquino plans to demand sworn allegiance from the military on the strength of a landslide victory for her new Philippines constitution, top government sources said yesterday.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, told reporters Aquino would make restraining the country's restive military a high priority after official poll results are announced within a week.

Sacked former defence minister Juan Ponce Enrile warned in an interview with foreign journalists that uniformed resentment would not simply vanish.

"As long as the military is in a state of fragmentation, as it is now, you'll always find an expression of this resentment in one way or another, in some form or another," he said.

Unofficial tallies indicated landslide approval for the charter in Monday's vote as the counting neared the halfway mark yesterday; but these also showed that soldiers detailed in three major military camps in the country had rejected the constitution.

The plebiscite, which the Aquino government deemed as essential to achieve political stability, had been preceded by at least three unsuccessful coup attempts by disaffected military elements and rightwing supporters of deposed president Ferdinand Marcos.

The landslide endorsement of the new constitution "shows repudiation of the communist claim that it has the support of the people," Defence Minister Rafael Ileto said in a statement. "It is clear our position is gaining ground."

Ileto, speaking four days before a ceasefire with rebels expires, said the victory gave Aquino a clear popular mandate and the upper hand in any peace talks with the rebels.

There have been clashes despite the ceasefire.

In the latest, rebels ambushed a military convoy 48 kilometres from Manila yesterday, killing one soldier and wounding two, the government Philippine News Agency reported.

The agency said the convoy was *en route* to Mariveles in Bataan province to investigate the slaying Friday of two strikers demanding land and labour reforms. The convoy was led by Lt. Col. Cecilio Penilla, who escaped injury. Leftists hold Penilla, the provincial military commander, responsible for the strikers' deaths, the report said.

Although the final, official returns are not expected for days, there have been acknowledgements on both the right and the left that the new charter has won a resounding endorsement.

The private National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) said its unofficial tally of just over half the country's 86,918 precincts showed the charter winning the approval of 78.51 per cent of the voters. (Reuter, AP)



Filipinos read a newspaper reporting results of the plebiscite for a new constitution in Manila yesterday. (AFP telephoto)

Iraq retaliates after missile hits Baghdad

BAHRAIN (Reuter). – Iraqi warplanes bombed targets in Iranian cities yesterday after a missile hit Baghdad.

The surface-to-surface missile, the eighth to hit the Iraqi capital this year, smashed into a residential area, killing or wounding several civilians, an Iraqi military spokesman said.

An Iranian military statement warned Iraq to expect "more smashing replies" if its air force continued to attack Iranian towns and cities.

Teheran Radio said Iraqi planes bombed the cities of Khorramabad, Pol-e Dokhtar and Kuhdasht, killing or injuring several people.

Iran, which has reported a civilian death toll of more than 2,000 in this year's air raids, vowed revenge after 68 school girls in the northwestern city of Mianeh were killed in an air raid Sunday.

Iranian authorities have refused Swiss diplomats permission to see Gerald Seib, the *Wall Street Journal* correspondent detained in Teheran Sunday, the White House said yesterday.

Seib was detained after spending 10 days in Iran among a group of reporters invited into the country by the government.

Communications chief quits White House position

WASHINGTON (Reuter). – White House Communications Director Patrick Buchanan, who has been outspoken in defending President Ronald Reagan since the Iran-Contra scandal broke, submitted his resignation yesterday.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Buchanan would leave his post on March 1 in order to play a role in the 1988 presidential race as a leader of the conservative movement.

Buchanan had been mentioned as a possible contender for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination, but he recently announced he would not be a candidate because he did not want to split the conservative wing of the party.

Buchanan, a prominent conservative commentator, joined the White House senior staff in 1985, two days after Donald Regan became Reagan's chief of staff.

His resignation has been rumoured for months. He has persistently urged the White House to take a hard line on issues and frequently found himself overridden.

Buchanan is the latest of several top Reagan aides to leave the administration. Larry Speakes, the president's chief spokesman for nearly six years, departed last Friday to join the Wall Street investment firm Merill Lynch.

Concern that Italy, France wavering

UK stands firm on hostage-taking

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. – The official western European position on dealings with hostage-takers is unequivocal, and has been reiterated at countless EEC gatherings in recent months: no negotiating, no bargaining, no exchanges, no ransom payments.

Britain has paid the price for that policy, with three of its citizens murdered by kidnappers in Lebanon: Dennis Hill died in May 1985; and Leigh Douglas and Philip Padfield were found dead on April 17 last year, days after the U.S. raids on Libya.

As it becomes increasingly clear that church envoy Terry Waite is being held in Lebanon against his will, concern is growing in Whitehall that, while Britain is sticking to the "no-bargaining" policy, the resolve of its European colleagues is weakening.

On Monday, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher reportedly wrote to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, urging him not to consider any deal to obtain the freedom of kidnapped West German businessmen Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt.

The U.S. has called on Bonn to extradite Mohammed Ali Hameidi, currently being held in a Frankfurt jail in connection with the 1985 TWA hijacking. Thatcher clearly shares the U.S. fears that West Germany might refuse the extradition and attempt an exchange.

There is concern too about talk of imminent deals involving the French and Italian governments.

Italy recently released Hawdi Hindawi on bail, after jailing him for several months on suspicion of membership in a terrorist organization. It is feared that Hindawi, a cousin of the London El Al bomb plotter Nezar Hindawi, might figure in plans for an exchange with Italian hostage Alberto Molinari.

French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has never enjoyed the full confidence of the British. Although suspected terrorist Georges Ibrahim Abdallah is expected to stand trial in connection with the shooting of a U.S. diplomat in Paris, rumours of attempted French dealings with kidnappers continue to make the rounds.

Whitehall sources stress that "it is not for one government to tell the others how to behave. We understand that each country has its individual pressures, its individual concerns."

Nonetheless, one source added: "We would have liked to think that countries would learn their lesson, despite the attempts at bargaining with kidnappers over the past 12 months, there are considerably more hostages now than there were then.

"It is clear that hostage dealings don't work. Unfortunately it is also clear that this lesson has not yet been learned."

Agence France Press reported yesterday that senior officials from seven Western industrial powers would meet in Rome soon to discuss the growing problem of hostage-taking, particularly in Lebanon. No date was given for the meeting of senior Foreign Ministry officials from Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the U.S. and West Germany.

Thatcher yesterday denied she had ordered the seizure of the sensitive BBC material, saying it was a matter for police and the courts.

First U.S. N-test in 1987 may end Soviet freeze

WASHINGTON (Reuter). – The U.S. yesterday conducted its first nuclear test of 1987 – a blast the Soviet Union has said will force it to abandon its test freeze – the Department of Energy announced.

It said the test took place underground in Nevada near Las Vegas at 7:20 a.m. local time and had a yield of less than 20 kilotons of dynamite.

The Soviet Union, which has been appealing to the Reagan administration to join a test ban, has said it would resume its test programme with the first U.S. blast of this year. The Soviet moratorium began on August 6, 1985.

The U.S. has resisted Moscow's plea for a ban, claiming that testing is required to modernize and maintain the reliability of the U.S. deterrent and will be needed as long as there are nuclear weapons.

Officials say testing also is required to develop new weapons, such as hydrogen bomb-powered death ray lasers, for President Reagan's "Star Wars" concept of a space shield against nuclear missiles.

Yesterday's test was the 20th announced by the U.S. since the Soviet moratorium came into effect on the 40th anniversary of the U.S. nuclear bombing of Hiroshima at the end of WWII.

Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Vladmir Petrovsky said at that time that the Soviet ban demonstrated the possibility of practical arms control steps and he renewed appeals to the Americans to stop testing.

The official Soviet news agency Tass called the test "a challenge to world opinion."

Tass did not indicate in a brief dispatch if the Soviet Union would take any action in response to the blast.

Top Pentagon official said resigning

WASHINGTON (Reuter). – Outspoken Assistant Defence Secretary Richard Perle is expected to resign this month after angering Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger with a sharp attack on America's Nato allies, Pentagon officials said yesterday.

On Saturday, Perle accused the Atlantic allies of "a failure of forthrightness, or just plain silence" on alleged Soviet violations of arms treaties and other East-West defence issues.

It was the latest in a series of controversies involving Perle, 45, a staunch critic of U.S.-Soviet arms control agreements and an influential spokesman for anti-Soviet hardliners in and out of the Reagan Administration.

"Weinberger was displeased," said one of the Pentagon officials, who asked not to be identified. But he said Weinberger had not asked for Perle's resignation.

"He (Perle) has told the secretary that he plans to leave soon and I expect he will leave this month," said another official.

Perle is scheduled to fly home from a European trip today and his office had no immediate comment on the matter.

Indo-Pakistan border talks gain ground – but no pact

NEW DELHI. – India and Pakistan failed to reach an agreement to defuse border tensions after a fourth consecutive day of talks here yesterday, but progress was made, an Indian spokesman said.

The two deldegations are to meet again today in a bid to agree on a timetable to withdraw the estimated 500,000 troops massed along their 3,000-kilometre border, the spokesman said.

Both delegations yesterday "noted that progress has been made in working out measures to defuse tensions," the External Affairs Ministry spokesman said.

Talks were initially scheduled only for Saturday and Sunday, but they have now been extended three times. A sticking point is reportedly India's reluctance to limit plans to hold multi-corps maneuvers on an unprecedented scale in Rajasthan, which borders Pakistan.

Indian analysts say both sides are serious about reducing the tension caused by massive troop deployments along their joint border, which stretches from the deserts of Sind to the snow-capped mountains of Kashmir.

Thousands of families have fled border villages in the snow-bound Himalayan state of Kashmir over the past week, fearing that a confrontation could erupt on the frontier, according to state officials.

Indian and Pakistani troops are sitting eyeball to eyeball in Kashmir, two thirds of which is under India's control and the rest under Pakistan's. (AP, AFP)

MPs attack Thatcher on BBC raids

LONDON (Reuter). – Opposition MPs yesterday accused the Conservative government of running a police state bent on muzzling the press, following police raids on the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Although Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government denied it had ordered the weekend seizure of material for a series on intelligence and other secret activities, the opposition was united expressing concern.

During a lengthy search of the BBC's Glasgow offices, police seized two vanloads of material relating to a six-hour documentary series entitled *The Secret Society*.

The BBC had already agreed not to show one episode revealing a plan to launch a spy satellite over the Soviet Union.

House of Commons Speaker Bernard Weatherill ordered an emergency parliamentary debate on the raid after six members of Thatcher's party joined the combined opposition to demand the debate.

The government has already been accused by Social Democrat Roy Jenkins of running "a second-class police state," while Liberal leader David Steel asked whether "the knock on the door in the middle of the night" was to become part of British life.

PLUNGE. – More than 50 people were killed when a lorry carrying 100 Catholic choristers plunged into a river in the central Nigerian state of Benue yesterday.

Black 'special constables' kill four

JOHANNESBURG. – Three black South African special constables have been taken into custody after shooting dead four people and wounding four in a black township, police said yesterday.

A police statement said the constables had returned fire after being shot at while guarding a school in a township near Grahamstown in the eastern Cape Province.

But township residents alleged that the constables ran amok Monday night after getting drunk.

The three are among thousands of "kitskonstables" or "instant cops" recruited since last year to black police and troops facing violent protest in South Africa's black townships.

In September, the government said that 1,000 of the special constables were being trained on three-week courses, and that a total force of 6,000 was envisioned.

Meanwhile, the South African Press Association said attackers hacked and bludgeoned to death six people in the Ciseki tribal homeland on Sunday night and then piled up the bodies and set them on fire.

In Cape Town yesterday, Foreign Minister Pik Botha launched a scathing attack on the U.S., charging that the American Congress shared responsibility for killings in South Africa's black townships.

By imposing economic sanctions on South Africa, he said, Congress had encouraged black militants and made it more difficult for moderates who wanted a dialogue with the white-led government.

Theuns Swanepoel, 58, a retired police brigadier who crushed the 1976 Soweto uprising in which nearly 600 people were killed, said yesterday he was going to run against Foreign Minister Botha in the May 6 general election for whites. He was expected to run as an independent.

Once described as the country's most feared policeman, Swanepoel said he was running because the government was "soft" on law and order. He said he had "detained thousands in my time and I would happily detain ten times more." (Reuter, AFP)

Report says one in eight Britons illiterate

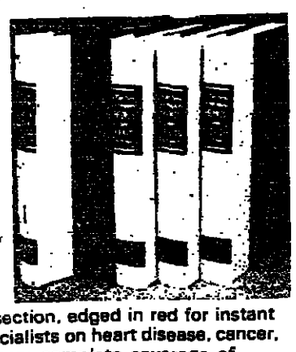
LONDON (Reuter). – As many as seven million Britons – about one in eight of the population – are unable to read, write or do simple mathematics, according to research based on the lives of every child born in one week in 1958.

The research was conducted by Dr Mary Hamilton of Lancaster University and is based on data collected by the National Child Development Study, which followed the progress of every child born in one week in March, 1958.

Hamilton's findings were aired Monday night in a British television documentary.

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FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

Deputy PLO chief to Amman this weekend

AMMAN (AP). – Khalil Wazir (Abu Jihad), deputy commander of the PLO who was expelled from Jordan last year, is expected to fly to Amman over the weekend. He will lead the PLO's team to a joint PLO-Jordanian committee that distributes development funds to Palestinians living in the West Bank, said Mohammed Milhem, a member of the PLO Executive Committee.

The planned return of Wazir ushers in a new era in Jordanian-PLO relations, after one year of strain because of disagreement on proposals for settling the Middle East conflict.

Brezhnev's son-in-law arrested on corruption charge

MOSCOW (Reuter). – Yuri Churbanov, son-in-law of former leader Leonid Brezhnev, has been arrested on suspicion of corruption.

Gennady Gerasimov, Head of the Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, told a news briefing yesterday that Churbanov, a former first deputy minister of the interior, was "accused of corruption and bribe-taking."

Churbanov, who is married to Brezhnev's daughter Galina, was removed from his post in December 1984, two years after the old Kremlin chief's death, and given a minor job at the ministry.

Free sheaths for Italian soldiers, prisoners

ROME (Reuter). – The Italian government will distribute free contraceptive sheaths to its 385,000 servicemen in an attempt to stop the spread of Aids, officials said yesterday.

Military health authorities decided on the move after reading an official report which showed 18 members of the armed forces had been positively tested for Aids antibodies since 1985.

Minister denies Egypt helped fund Irangate

CAIRO (AFP). – Egyptian Information Minister Safwat Sharif has categorically denied that Egypt was involved in financing U.S. arms sales to Iran.

According to a report in the *New York Times* on Monday, the Bank of Egypt put up a $5 million guarantee towards the purchase of 39 U.S. F-4 combat aircraft worth a total of $252m., which private arms dealers were trying to ship illegally to Iran through Turkey.

"Egypt did not give any guarantee of the kind and did not supply planes to facilitate such arms transactions," Sharif was quoted as saying by the Cairo press yesterday.

Palme probe chiefs given 24 hours to settle row

STOCKHOLM (AFP). – The Swedish government yesterday gave the two men heading the investigation into former Premier Olof Palme's assassination 24 hours to settle a row over how the inquiry should be handled.

After police two weeks ago took in 20 people for questioning, and then released them, the two men made it known publicly that they disagreed on how the investigation should be pursued.

Palme was shot to death last February as he and his wife were leaving a cinema in downtown Stockholm.

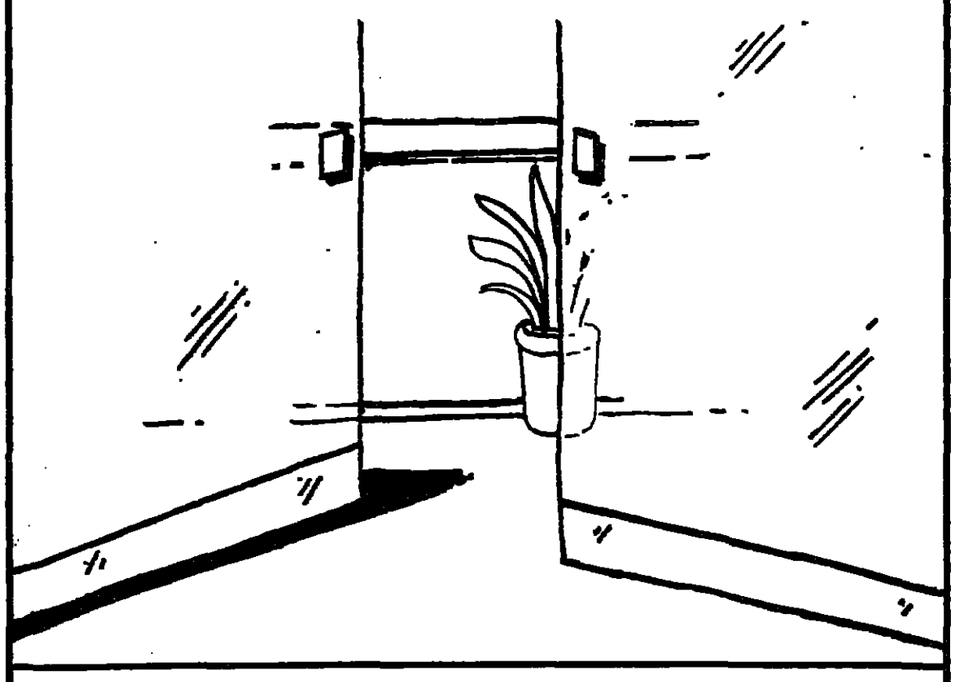
Chad claims Libyan aircraft shot down

NDJAMENA (AFP). – Chadian government forces shot down a Libyan Mig-25 fighter-bomber over the remote northwestern oasis of Zouar late on Monday, officials said yesterday.

The statement followed a claim by government forces to have also shot down a Libyan combat helicopter in the same region on Sunday.

Chad yesterday claimed that 1,167 Libyan soldiers had been killed since its troops launched a major offensive aimed at recapturing the northern part of the country one month ago.

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Shifrin

Hammer's new adviser on women affairs:

No halachic basis for ban on women attending funerals

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Religious Affair's Ministry's new adviser on women's issues yesterday criticized the idea of barring women from funerals. Tova Lichtenstein, appointed by Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer on Monday, yesterday responded to the controversial ruling by the Migdal Ha'emek rabbis prohibiting women from attending funerals in that town.

Their ruling was based on a passage in the Zohar, attributing disasters to the mixing of the sexes at cemeteries.

Even the chief rabbis had said that the ruling had no basis in Halacha, she told *The Jerusalem Post*. Lichtenstein saw her own job as involving "input into the Religious Affairs Ministry for women, who are necessarily involved in religious services, especially in times of transition."

Lichtenstein, who is the wife of Rabbi Aaron Lichtenstein of Har Etzion Yeshiva and daughter of Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, the leading modern Orthodox authority in the U.S. on Jewish law, insisted that she had taken the position "on my own," and was not seeking guidance from either her husband or her father.

A graduate of Radcliffe College and Columbia University and lecturer at the Bar-Ilan School of Social Work, Lichtenstein said that the religious courts should be aided by psychologists and social workers – not necessarily women – who could make clear to the rabbis the needs of women. She also felt a way should be found for women to serve on local religious councils. There was no halachic reason for them not to do so, she added.

Migdal Ha'emek burial society officials had been acting on a directive by the local Shephardi chief rabbi, Menachem Avraham, and the local Ashkenazi chief rabbi, David Grossman. Observers yesterday expressed surprise that Grossman, who is considered to be sensitive to the secular public, would take such a stand.

Rabbi Eitan Eisman, director-general of the Chief Rabbis' Office in Jerusalem said yesterday that while it was understandable for each community to have its own customs, it was hard to imagine that rabbis would try to enforce such a ruling on the general public.

"If my wife or my daughter asked me I might tell them it would be best that they not go [to a funeral]," he said, adding that he would not try to force non-religious people to observe such customs.

Even in Jerusalem, the custom of separating the sexes is not enforced he said.

Eisman too, spoke of Grossman's reported understanding of the non-religious public. "He is the rabbi of prisons and discotheques," Eisman said.

Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer indicated last night that at least one of the rabbis who issued the ruling may be backing down in face of the public outcry.

After speaking to Grossman, *Hammer maintained that there* was in fact "no change" in the manner of conducting funerals in Migdal Ha'emek but only "a request that the sexes not mix during a certain part of the ceremony."

Hammer said that Grossman had read him a letter from the family of the bereaved. Hannah Hemo objecting to the use of her name to attack the rabbis and stating that she had specifically asked in her will that the Moroccan custom of separating the sexes during the funeral be observed.

Also commenting on the issue, Rabbi Shlomo Riskin of Efrat said that "women have every *justification* and right to participate in funerals, thereby expressing their natural grief." The former New York rabbi added that women have the right to serve "in any elective position which exists in Israel today, including... local religious councils."

Nissim Zvili, head of the Jewish Agency Settlement Department, yesterday requested executive chairman Arye Dulzin to freeze the Agency's share in the funding of joint projects headed by Rabbi Yitzhak David Grossman of Migdal Ha'emek, following his ruling requiring the separation of the sexes at funerals.

"This ruling stands in absolute contradiction to the image Rabbi Grossman has built up, and goes counter to the spirit of enlightened Judaism. The idea that one can split up a family at the time of grief is inhuman, and brings Judaism down to the level of superstitious idol-worship," Zvili said.

British ships cancel call at Haifa Bay

HAIFA. – The British Navy has called off next week's visit of three of its warships, which were to have sailed here on their way home from the vicinity of the Gulf.

"They will not be able to call for operational reasons," naval and air attache Wing Commander Derek Lewis told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The tense situation in the Persian Gulf and eastern Mediterranean was causing concern and had apparently resulted in a change of plans for the ships, he said.

It can be seen over and over, Navon warns

Violence on video most damaging to young people

By LEA LEVAVI

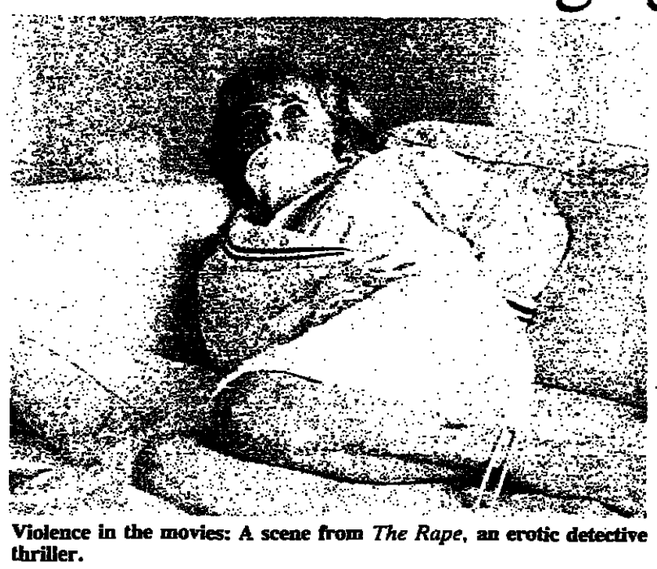
TEL AVIV. – Videos should be censored so that young people are not able to view repeated scenes of sex or violence, Education Minister Yitzhak Navon said yesterday, during a symposium on the influence of violence in the media on young people.

Violence on TV and in the cinema has its damaging effects in setting a bad example for youngsters, he said at the symposium sponsored by the National Council of Women's Organizations at Beit Sokolow, but violence on video is worse because it can be viewed over and over again.

Navon said that in discussions with Israel Broadcasting Authority director-general Uri Porat on the degree of violence on TV programmes lately, he was told that the IBA was considering warning announcements before such programmes so that parents could stop their children from watching.

"I think they should stop considering and start announcing," the minister said, although he realized that such announcements could make the programmes more attractive to youngsters.

Navon also complained that the police and Interior Ministry do not adequately enforce admission restrictions on under-age viewers at adults-only films.



Violence in the movies: A scene from *The Rape*, an erotic detective thriller.

Dr. Eliezer Marcus, principal of the Education Ministry School for Senior Teaching Staff said that by the end of elementary school, children have 16,000 hours of TV viewing behind them.

This is 4,000 more hours than they've spent learning, including time in the classroom plus a half hour a day for homework, Marcus said.

He complained that recently three rapes were reconstructed on TV between 8 and 9 p.m., peak viewing-time for youngsters, and he wondered how many teachers gave their pupils a chance to discuss their reactions in class the following day.

Dr. Simcha Landau, a criminologist at the Hebrew University, quoted a longitudinal study done in the U.S. over 22 years which concluded that children who had enjoyed violent TV programmes at the age of 8 were more likely than their peers to be violent as young adults.

Ari Avnerre, adviser to the IBA's director-general, tried to refute the research by saying there is no way of distinguishing between causality and statistical correlation.

"We don't know if the kid watched violent programmes because he had a tendency toward violence, or became violent because he watched violent programmes, or did both for some third reason we can't guess," he said. He suggested replacing research with value judgements. "I won't refrain from showing *Hamlet* just because it's violent, but I won't show violence for its own sake."

The problem is that we do not all agree on what is "violence for its own sake," Marcus said later. "I'm not worried about detective thrillers where the good guy wins in the end but shows like *Dallas* and *Dynasty* convey a message that might is right and that could have serious negative consequences."

Landau had suggested educational progammes designed to teach youngsters not to identify with the violence they see on TV and to reject violence as an acceptable solution to problems.

Some high school students in the audience, however, didn't buy the idea. "We are a rebellious generation who don't listen to grown-ups, and brainwashing won't work," one student said. She added that teachers should talk openly to youngsters about violence – and not only that shown on TV – instead of preaching.

Hemda Weiss of the Institute for Media and Family in Haifa showed slides of advertisements – some from young people's magazines and some from adult newspapers – associating beer and other alcoholic drinks with social and sexual success, or using drink and violence to sell shoes or other everyday products. Such ads were just as likely to educate toward violence as anything on TV or in the movies, she said.

Samaritan bachelors urged to wed

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The new high priest of the Samaritans said this week that one of his chief aims is to make sure that all Samaritan bachelors marry.

The high priest, Yosef Ben Ab-Hisda Ben Ya'acov, summoned the notables of the small community, which numbers about 530 souls, to his home in Nablus as the week of mourning for his predecessor, Ya'acov Ben Uzzi, came to an end.

He stressed that in addition to assuming his official duties as final arbiter in matters of religion and as leader of religious ceremonies, he would also work to encourage young people to perpetuate their religious tradition. To this end, he would seek to reduce intra-communal squabbles, promote the marriage of the unwed, try to solve the Samaritan housing problem, and encourage the young to learn their historic and literary tradition from the community's sages.

He added that he would continue the policy of his predecessor and work for good relations with both the Israeli and the Jordanian authorities. Samaritans who live in Holon are Israeli citizens, while those who live in Nablus are Jordanian citizens.

The high priest will also try to improve ties with the Vatican, first established under his predecessor. Last year, the Samaritans presented the Apostolic Delegate in Jerusalem with an $8m. aid programme to be paid by the Vatican in compensation for Samaritan suffering at the hands of Christianity over the centuries. So far, the Vatican has made no definite reply to the request.

Shamir voices support for Jewish Agency

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Shamir's statement of support for the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization was read at yesterday's meeting of the Zionist Executive by Settlement Department head Matityahu Drobless.

Shamir's message was a response to the recent attacks on executive chairman Arye Dulzin for his role in the Bank Leumi-Ernest Japhet affair, and last week's "Entrance Free" television programme about the Jewish Agency, which Dulzin described as a "lynching."

In his message the prime minister described the Jewish Agency and the WZO as "the cardinal factors in the network of relations between the Diaspora and the State of Israel."

The WZO is the only channel through which the State manifests its concern for the continued existence of the Jewish people in the war against assimilation and mixed marriages. And the Jewish Agency plays an important role in mobilizing the participation of Diaspora Jewry in the building of Israel, immigration absorption, and strengthening Israeli society, Shamir said.

The prime minister called on both organizations to continue "the serious consideration of changes in structure and methods of operation, in order to adapt them to the new reality of the Jewish people."

IN BRIEF

3 infants die in Galilee

ACRE (Itim). – Three infants died Monday night in three separate Western Galilee villages.

In Majd el-Kurum, a three-and-a-half-month-old baby choked to death while nursing from his mother. In Abum Sinan, a four-month-old baby, who suddenly took ill, died while being taken to the government hospital in Nahariya. In Sajur village, a four-and-a-half-month-old baby was found dead in her crib.

Police are investigating the cases.

Haifa mall costs more

HAIFA. – The cost of Haifa's pedestrian mall in Rehov Nordau, which after eight months of construction is still not completed, has already shot up by over 50 per cent.

At a recent meeting of the municipal finance committee, the councillors approved an extra NIS 478,000 for the work, which was originally budgeted at NIS 771,000.

Israel-Canada agreement

An agreement was signed this week between the Energy Ministry's Geological Survey and the Canadian Geological Survey, Ministry Director-General Dr. Yosef Bartov announced yesterday.

Cooperation between the two countries will include basic research in oil drilling, the study of earthquake risks, and geological mapping methods.

Clergy haven't received Vanunu request for visit

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Mordechai Vanunu has asked that an Anglican clergyman be allowed to visit him, but inquiries in Anglican church circles yesterday indicated that its clergymen are less than enthusiastic about the idea.

A source close to the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East, which has its headquarters at St. George's Cathedral in East Jerusalem, stressed that "we have no connection with this man." The source, who asked that he not be named, said they had received no request from Vanunu's lawyer or from the authorities to visit him.

The source stressed that as far as the local Anglican church was concerned, there was no proof that Vanunu had even been converted to that faith.

A slightly more receptive response came from Rev. Michael Bullman of the Israel Trust of the Anglican Church, a body which exists separately from the local Anglican hierarchy and which has its headquarters in the Christ Church in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Bullman also said he knew of no request for a clergyman to visit Vanunu and in the event that one comes, the church's response would have to depend on the terms of the request.

While stressing that "we don't want to get involved in the rightness or wrongness of the issue," he added that such a request coming from "anybody" would certainly be considered.

Another local Christian clergyman who has expressed an interest in the case is Rev. Claude Duvernoy, of the French Reformed Church (Presbyterian). Duvernoy did however say he had "doubts" concerning the validity of Vanunu's "conversion" to Christianity.

A staunch supporter of Israel, Duvernoy said that if asked he would visit Vanunu and first try to discern if "his conversion is sincere or not."

Rather than go with any preconceive ideas about moralizing to Vanunu, Duvernoy said he would primarily be interested in listening to what Vanunu had to say.

Vanunu is suspected of revealing Israel's alleged nuclear secrets to a London newspaper.

Granot appeals decision of TA district court

TEL AVIV (Itim). – Aviva Granot this week appealed to the Supreme Court against the judgement of Tel Aviv District Court on January 15 finding her guilty of the murder of Mela Melavsky. Granot and Hava Ya'ari were both found guilty and given life sentences.

Granot states in her appeal that the district court erred in deciding that she and Ya'ari had both planned to murder Melavsky. Granot also contests the court's finding that Ya'ari's blows did not kill Melavsky.

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MCFARLANE INTERVIEW

(Continued from Page One)

McFarlane does deny a report made by Israel Television that he had warned Kimche last year that if the arms deal were exposed, the Reagan administration would disclaim involvement and blame Israel.

"That's a falsehood," he said.

McFarlane, though, was troubled by the facts that "First, we weren't talking directly to the Iranians; which was really our purpose. We were talking through a third party (Israel). Secondly, the *de facto* outcome of these shipments was that they were becoming tied by Iran, I think, into a hostage exchange, which was exactly what we did not want."

McFarlane then took these concerns to Reagan and recommended that an attempt be made to talk directly with senior Iranian officials. A meeting took place on December 8, 1985 in London with Manucher Ghorbanifar, the Iranian arms dealer, David Kimche and Lt.-Col. Oliver North of the U.S. National Security Council.

The meeting did not change McFarlane's perspective and he began to doubt whether Ghorbanifar's contacts really could help change Iran's policies or recreate better relations with the U.S.

By the end of December that year, when he left the White House, McFarlane assumed the issue was closed but last April, his successor Vice Admiral John Poindexter informed him that the dialogue had never been discontinued. Instead, arrangements had been made to release all the hostages, which ultimately did not happen.

But would the U.S. overture have succeeded if McFarlane had gone public with it at the outset?

"The publicity would have immediately exposed the relative moderates to great vulnerability and pressure. And that would have foreclosed any progress whatsoever.

"An operation like that, over time, gradually has a widening circle of participants which would have exposed it to leaks. 'I knew that at the time. I always expected it would, within a year of its beginning, become public and we ought to plan on that, and make arrangements to brief the appropriate congressional people and others."

The complexity of trying to reorient a regime like Iran requires discretion, persistence and patience, McFarlane says: "Normally it shouldn't be a function of the White House or the National Security Council Adviser. But in certain circumstances, this is unavoidable. At times, the only way to reach people is to do it through channels where there is the least chance of being compromised by leaks, channels in which they have confidence they are dealing with the highest levels of the U.S. government."

McFarlane maintains there is no direct link between his resignation in December 1985 and U.S. policy on arms to Iran. He does, however, indicate there could have been an indirect connection: "I do think, at least subconsciously, that the refusal of other administration officials to acknowledge the merit in trying to reopen ties with Iran was expressive of a larger problem that still exists.

"The administration hasn't yet established a cohesive policy team that identifies one or two important global objectives upon which it should focus all its energies in a coordinated fashion."

He goes on to say that there was a "sense of drift" among the president's cabinet and staff with too much energy diverted to intramural squabbles instead of towards specific goals which would serve the national interest.

Despite the controversy prompted by the affair, McFarlane still believes in making some kind of initiative to Iran. "We have an interest in trying to foster reform in Iran. If there are people who seem willing to do that, we ought to encourage it. Ultimately, we'll have to confront the fact that if there are those in Iran who really want change, they won't be able to bring it about through fasting and prayer. They'll have to have some support."

But doesn't the arms deal mean that the U.S. cannot ever again tell its allies to be tough on terrorism and not ship arms to Iran?

"The key point in all this," McFarlane says, "is that we did not ship arms to to terrorists. We shipped arms to people who said they wanted to stop terrorism and to change policy in Iran. That's quite a different thing."



Robert McFarlane

McFarlane's visit to Iran as a private citizen in May 1986, via Israel, in the company of North, Howard Teicher of the National Security Council and Amiram Nir, counter-terrorism adviser to then premier Shimon Peres, spelled the end of the deal. He says that after four days in Teheran, he concluded that he was not convinced of the Iranian moderates' influence or power.

"Upon my return, I briefed the president and recommended that no further action be taken until they demonstrated good faith by helping, at least, to release our hostages."

Concerning the plight of the hostages, McFarlane believes they will eventually be released. He says there "has to be hope" for them because some already have been released.

And while delay is unavoidable, he says, "perhaps these strands can be picked up in some channel within six months."

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Doron Pely

"WELCOME TO TRILOGUE, computer Message-management system. If you wish to leave a message, please dial the code number of the desired extension. If you wish to examine the contents of your mail box, please dial your I.D. number and your password."

This message, delivered in a soft voice, came from the bowels of Trilogue, a vocal electronic mail system, one of a new breed of computers that is beginning to shape tomorrow's communication world.

Electronic mail is no more of a novelty for today's computer users than a telephone is to any business operation. For the last decade, large computer networks have employed an internal mail system that allows each subscriber to send and receive messages from a computer terminal. "Mail boxes," in the form of available space in the computer's memory, store messages and transfer them to another subscriber or subscribers at the push of a button.

Recent innovations in the technology used to "pack" human speech into a computer's memory have given rise to a new generation of voice-based electronic mail systems. The new systems allow a subscriber to send and receive messages through a computer network with the aid of an ordinary telephone.

Calling-in army reserve units in case of an emergency is one of the new system's capabilities. Instead of hand-dialling thousands of numbers, the system can dial automatically and relay a vocal messsage to whole brigades simultaneously. The computer will not skip a number and will not take a busy tone for an answer. It will keep a record of successful calls and will even record the responses of the soldiers.

Apart from military applications, some of which are still classified, a computer message-management system can perform public opinion polls, involving thousands of participants, in minutes. Responses can be collated and processed in seconds by the computer and results can be delivered almost instantaneously.

Large companies can take a load off their switchboard operators by channelling telephone calls directly to vocal "mail boxes." The addressee of each message can be alerted by a beeper that a message is stored on his/her computer, and the messages can be listened to at any time by dialling the computer and entering a password.

One of the system's future applications is an electronic "yellow pages" service. Each subscriber will be able to dial the system, enter the code of the desired service and listen to a list of recommendations derived from the computer's data banks. A central storage facility for voice messages can be used to store calls made to cellular telephones. (*Pele Phone*). If the subscriber is outside the operational range of the system, Trilogue can instruct the caller to leave a message and then relay it to the addressee.

Efrat Future Technology, the company that developed Trilogue, was established by Boaz Misholi, a computer architect who built his own computer before he graduated from the Technion. After graduation, Misholi moved to America where he helped design a computer credit system for Macy's Corporation. In 1982, Misholi returned to Israel and with research and development grants from the office of the chief scientist started work on a vocal electronic mail system.

Today, Efrat's systems compete successfully against American and European systems. Trilogue has been purchased by the U.S. government's General Services Administration, Michigan University and dozens of other organizations. Last month the company went public at the New York Stock Exchange, selling $7 million worth of stocks under the name Comverse Technology Inc.

Helpful choice

NEW WORLDS

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

IF YOU are a parent who can't decide which kindergarten to pick for your child, or a company president who has to select among suppliers bidding for a long-term contract, a new software program available in Israel can help you decide what to do.

The software, called Expert Choice and marketed by the Task-Force company in Haifa, was produced by Decision Support Software in McLean, Virginia. It is suitable for IBM and IBM-compatible computers, and is geared for corporate managers who must decide about mergers, acquisitions, new products and strategic planning, hiring, advertising and employee promotion. It also helps the small businessman decide what new products to market, how to advertise, whether to sue, whom to fire and how to allocate time. The software programers who developed it claims it can help government leaders weigh the pros and cons of nuclear arms limitation agreements, set a state budget and deal with a national crisis.

As for home use, Expert Choice is a useful way to plan your career, choose the right job, invest your money, relocate in a new area and even get married or divorced.

It sounds like a tall order for a floppy diskette, but it is being used by top foreign companies like AT&T, ABC, Citibank, Exxon, Firestone Tire and Rubber, IBM, Nabisco, Westinghouse, and the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force. In Israel, it has been in use for about a year to make day-to-day decisions in the Israel Electric Corporation, Paz Oil Company, and a manufacturing unit inside Rafael, the weapons' development authority.

Expert Choice works by building computer models that help you organize the various elements of a problem into a hierarchy similar to a family-tree structure, with the goal at the top and criteria of the problem at the intermediate level. The alternatives for reaching the goal are at the bottom. Expert Choice, says the distributor, doesn't decide things in as complex a manner as the way the human brain makes decisions, but it takes choices and asks what you prefer, using verbal rather than numerical scales. The user must go through lists of preferences, in pairs, deciding which things are important. This forces the decision-maker to structure a problem. The program helps identify the most important factors in the decision and compare the importance of each factor.



Fish farming with computers in the Western Galilee. (Michael Freidin)

COMPUTERS and water don't mix, but an IBM personal computer is helping fish farmers in the Western Galilee keep an eye on 86 different varieties of fish.

A software program was developed by two high school pupils, Ariel and Nitzan from the Oshrat regional technological school. The program supervises the raising of half a million fish, keeping watch on the amount of oxygen needed in the water, the temperature of the water in the artificial ponds, and the food needed to support the fish.

MEANWHILE, a similar IBM PC is being used by pupils at the technological centre Azorei Menashe to control irrigation and the planting of crops in nearby fields. The computer helps decide where to install the drip-irrigation tubes, what plants to grow and how much water the soil can absorb. Sensors buried in the soil feed the computer with information on a continuous basis. The computer then digests the information and displays it graphically or numerically.

BECAUSE the air in their incubators contained too much oxygen, an untold number of babies in hospitals around the world were blinded. An Israeli company, Agnetech, is now marketing a computerized monitor that keeps constant watch on the level of various gases in the blood of premature babies in incubators.

The device has micro-processors and is attached to the baby by electrodes. Within 10 minutes of being attached, says the company, the device produces a readout of gas levels.

Because of the electrodes, the babies' blood vessels need not be punctured to get constant blood samples, a process which can cause infection or other damage.

The new incubator is portable and easy to operate. Audio-visual equipment warns about a sudden change in gas levels.

FOREIGN companies have recently shown great interest in an Israeli software program called Viscon which supervises the manufacturing process with a personal computer, using full-colour animation. All phases of manufacture are depicted on the screen and allow the user to control them. In the past, such operations needed giant computers. The program, costing $3,000, was developed by P.C.SOFT, and is meant mainly for export.

COMPUTER BRIEFS

Doron Pely

LIQUID CRYSTAL KEYBOARD

A new type of computer keyboard, whose keys are made of programmable, liquid-crystal, miniature screens, has been developed by a German company.

Operators of wordprocessors, wishing to use different languages, can program the keyboard to display the relevant letters of the alphabet of any language. A special, built-in memory can store the letters of 30 languages and switch from one to another at the press of a button.

Every key on the keyboard can be programed with an additional set of commands, relieving the operator of the need to type instructions. Once pressed, the programmable key sends the stored command to the computer as if it were typed in full.

Scientists, engineers and operators of special computer applications can construct a "custom-built" character set on the keyboards to produce symbols such as Integrals, Latin and musical notes. The keyboard can be programed automatically by the computer or manually by the operator.

PROGRAMES FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS

A team of teachers and computer programers from kibbutzim in Western Galilee have developed a new software package for pre-schoolers.

The program, marketed as Triple P (Pre-school Preparation Program,) is designed to help children develop basic concepts and learning readiness. The computer serves as a play-to-learn tool, helping the children develop an understanding of shape, colour, size, quantity, direction and order.

The programs are not meant to replace traditional frontal instruction, but to serve as an additional source of stimulation.

CCOMPAQ 386 – A NEW SUPER-MICRO COMPUTER

Compaq 386, the forerunner in a new generation of super-fast micro-computers, was introduced last month at the American Embassy's Cultural Centre in Tel Aviv.

The new computer, produced by Compaq corporation, is equipped with a new micro-processor – Intel 20386. The micro-processor is the functional heart of any computer. Intel's 20386 runs the computer at speeds of up to 10 times faster than any other micro-computer, and can utilize an internal memory of up to 8 million characters.

The new generation of super-fast micro-computers is designed to process several programs simultaneously. It is billed as a business and engineering computer for use in offices, departments and research facilities. Compaq 386 is marketed in Israel by MALAL Computers.

COMPUTER-CONTROLLED FUEL PUMPS

A new computer system, designed to monitor and control fuel dispensations for public organizations' car fleets, is undergoing final tests for presentation to potential customers.

Aimed at preventing any possibility of unauthorized and unrecorded fuel draws, the system is made up of a magnetic strip installed inside every car, and an electronic system inside the fuel pump's muzzle. The magnetic strip contains the car's identification and authorization. The muzzle's electronic system will "read" the information from the magnetic strip, identify the car and record the amount of fuel dispensed and the date of service. The system is controlled by a computer program.

The system has been developed by Gavish, a software house in kibbutz Givat Brenner, and the Rozman Company.

BOOK REVIEW/Peter David Hornik

ISRAEL: The Changing National Agenda by Avram Schweitzer. London, Croom Helm. 174 pp. £19.95 in UK only.

THIS BOOK suggests a framework for understanding the history of the state of Israel that is fairly easy to summarize. In the first decade of the state, the "national agenda," or the main set of tasks confronting the Mapai government, were national defence, immigrant absorption and land settlement, and the building of an economic infrastructure. Mapai succeeded well at these – so much so, in fact, that by the late Fifties it had exhausted its agenda, and went into a long period of stagnation during which, aside from infighting and scandals (the Lavon Affair), it essentially had nothing new to offer.

Mapai was paradoxically "rescued" from this stagnation by the Six Day War – which provided a new agenda in the form of national expansion, and a new leader drawn more or less from the Mapai ranks – Moshe Dayan – to symbolize and lead the way in implementing it. In the view of Avram Schweitzer, a senior editor of *Ha'aretz*, the 1977 election of Menachem Begin represented not so much an "upheaval" as an acceleration of an expansionist trend that had begun ten years earlier (which helps explain why Dayan was for a while able to serve in the first Begin government). This agenda, however, came apart with the Lebanon War, and the public perception of its failure, as manifested by the Labour-Likud runoff in the 1984 elections – which confounded the many analysts who had come to see Likud as the party of the future.

THUS WE now stand, according to Schweitzer, at the beginning of a third major era in Israel's development, one with a new national agenda "the essence of which will be the achievement of economic independence during the fourth and fifth decades of the state's sovereign political existence." Part and parcel of this is to relieve Israel's defence burden by replacing the annexationist approach to the territories with one aimed at relinquishing the bulk of them to Jordan in a peace settlement. Concurrently, on the economic front, what is needed is "a new synthesis between government planning and entrepreneurial management," in which export-oriented industry will be encouraged and bureaucracy will be trimmed – but not so much that it cannot lend industry a necessary guiding hand.

On the plus side, Schweitzer's schematization of Israel's history is interesting and, in some respects, persuasive. His de-ideologizing and de-mythicizing of the first decade of Mapai rule – his characterization of its ethos as not really "Zionist-socialist" but "settler-statist" – rings true, as does his interpretation of the role of Dayan. The writing, aside from a chapter on economic issues that is slow going for the uninitiated, is lucid and engaging. And unlike in some other recent books on Israel, Schweitzer – though he does evince an animosity toward Begin and Gush Emunim that is virulent and personal – does not on the whole take a crudely one-sided stance.

On the minus side, the book's terms of reference, as may already have emerged, are extremely prosaic. The state of Israel figures as little more than a set of security and economic interests, its leaders as technocrats whose task is to maximize safety and prosperity so that everyone can enjoy the good life. But as in reality such placidity is not likely to be achieved in Israel for a long time if ever, society must continue to grapple with existential issues concernings its mission (if any), its meaning in terms of Jewish identity and history, and so on. Ideally Israeli leaders should be able to address such issues intelligently; but they would find little edification in this book, which has almost nothing to offer in this regard.

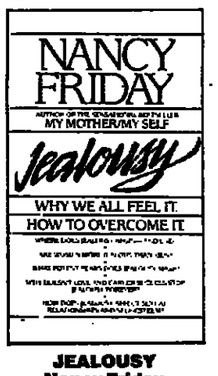
AND FINALLY, despite the book's air of refined objectivity, on the predictive level it is actually very fragile. Schweitzer envisions a land-for-peace deal with Jordan in which Israel is allowed to retain "IDF observation and listening posts... on the crests of the hills" and its border is "moved a few kilometers to the east... with a somewhat deeper bulge in the north of the West Bank" – which, even if it really could ensure Israel's security, seems more a projection of Schweitzer's rationalist cast of mind than a sound assessment of what King Hussein is politically capable of. And if something untoward should happen in the Middle East – for instance, a decisive outcome to the Iran-Iraq war and an escalation of the danger from Israel's east – then Schweitzer's confident house of cards would collapse.

The Jerusalem Post Library February 1987

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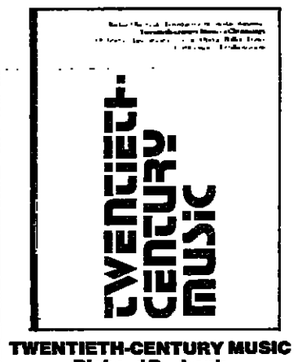


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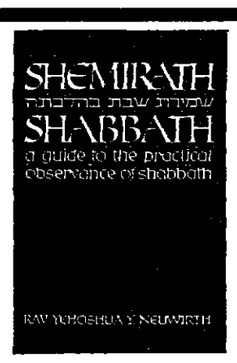
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President Mubarak at last month's Islamic Conference. (AFP)

Why abolish Camp David?

LAST MONTH, Kuwaiti journalist Ahmed Jarallah interviewed Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak on the eve of the Islamic conference. Among other things, they spoke about the peace process and Egypt's current position in the Arab world.

The following are excerpts from Jarallah's January 19 *Arab Times* interview, never before published in Israel:

Q: Mr. President, is the Palestinian leadership now ready to accept UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338?

A: I call upon them to find a specific formula to recognize these resolutions. This has already taken place indirectly through the acceptance of all UN resolutions, including 242. On the other hand, as some interpret it, resolution 242 considers Palestinians as refugees.

A few days ago I was discussing this issue with Mahmoud Riyad, who is experienced in such matters because he was in charge of Egyptian-Arab politics.

I believe that if the Palestinian leadership thinks about this matter thoroughly, there is a possibility of arriving at a specific formula that could lead us to recognize these two resolutions. Without acceptance of these two resolutions, I think the negotiations concerning an international peace conference will not begin. All sides consider these two resolutions as the basis for holding the international conference and for this reason we are making serious efforts in this direction.

Q: Many Arab personalities have recently started to cross the relations bridge with Egypt publicly. Is this due to the change in Egypt's attitude, or is it a response to the methods of leadership of Hosni Mubarak?

A: Let me not say the leadership of President Mubarak, as I am working in the name of Egypt's people. What I do stems from the will of Egypt's people. I can feel the pulse and trends of the Egyptian street.

Since I have come to power, nothing has soured our relations.

We have always had mutual understanding and have always been in contact with other Arab countries.

But if these relations have been enhanced recently, it is because the majority of Arab countries have become convinced that Egypt's policies are not against any Arab country, and we have a true desire to cooperate with all our sister countries.

Another reason behind the activation of these bridges is that we are frank with ourselves, our citizens and our brothers in other Arab countries.

We are not seeking personal gain for Egypt while ignoring the Arab situation. We are analysing all issues from an Arab viewpoint and not relying on propaganda.

Q: This year has witnessed several meetings between you and Saudi officials. How do you explain these developments and their statements vis-a-vis the importance of Egypt?

A: Even during these meetings last year this good impression did not change, nor do we change our face, as our policy is firm and unchangeable. I would like to say that our relations with our brothers in Saudi Arabia are very old. I am on good terms with King Fahd, Prince Abdullah and Prince Salman, which date back to the time of my vice-presidency.

But if our relations have been enhanced and entrenched this year, it is because they have been assured that our steps have not been changed and we wish them and all other Arab countries every prosperity. Another point that I have been thinking about is that any rupture, be it between Saudi Arabia, or Kuwait, or any other Arab country, is totally unjustified.

At the same time I think they were excused because of the resolutions passed at the Baghdad Summit and I do not like to embarrass anybody. Even King Hussein, when we met in New York, informed me that he wanted to resume his country's relations with Egypt. I asked him not to be hasty as I did not want to embarrass him.

I know that those who agreed to the Baghdad Summit resolution were under pressure from certain parties. I understood, and kept in mind these circumstances. But in general, I can say that contacts between King Fahd and me continued, and I met with princes Abdullah, Salman and Faisal as well as the oil minister Hisham Al Nazer.

Once again I will say that the rupture was unjustified, and I have explained that if the rupture was due only to the Camp David accord, the people of Egypt will accept my going beyond this formula. Therefore let us go beyond those people who wish to cancel the accord.

I asked one of them if he would cancel the Camp David accord if he had the power of the presidency. He said that trying was one thing but succeeding was another. This is a fact that cannot be denied.

Is there any Egyptian who would accept bargaining over Sinai a second time? Of course, nobody would accept this.

I would like to ask our brothers who wish to see Camp David cancelled to clarify why they are calling for this. Is it because of its name? Let us debate the current situation: does it seem reasonable to abolish Camp David and fight again to restore it?

Kashrut in Ramallah

Gershom Gorenberg

TWO OR THREE times a month, a yeshiva student drives from the West Bank settlement of Beit El Bet to the Royal Crown Cola factory in Ramallah. Arriving unannounced, he examines the storerooms and production line, making sure that only kosher ingredients are being used. Though the raw materials come from U.S. and Israeli firms under rabbinical supervision, he sometimes takes samples for laboratory tests to ensure that no substances forbidden by Jewish law have tainted the drinks produced by the Palestinian plant.

The student is a representative of Rabbi Zalman Melamed, head of the Beit El yeshiva and spiritual leader of a settlement known for its extreme Orthodoxy. The Royal Crown factory he supervises is a franchise owned by United Trading and Investment, a partnership of three Palestinian businessmen determined to take over a healthy slice of Israel's soft-drink market.

And the words *kasher lamehadrin* (kosher for those observing strict standards) on RC's blue-and-white label show that in the West Bank, business makes far stranger bedfellows than do politics.

In the Diaspora, of course, non-Jewish food producers are often under rabbinical supervision. The soft-drink concentrates that United Trading buys from Royal Crown Cola Co. of Columbus, Georgia bear the "O-U" kashrut symbol of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America. Israeli Arab firms also produce kosher foods, under the supervision of the Israeli rabbinate.

But in the politically charged atmosphere of the West Bank, such relations are surprising – particularly when the kashrut supervisors are settlers determined to maintain Israeli control of the territories. The decision of a dozen or more firms in Ramallah and Nablus to maintain kosher production lines demonstrates how interlocked the Israeli and West Bank economies are in the 20th year of Israeli rule, and how important sales in Israel have become to West Bank businessmen.

"A big part of the Israeli market is religious and we want to sell to them," says Sawson (Susan) Ghanan, a Bir Zeit University graduate who directs marketing at United Trading. The accountant at the Akram Bakir tehina factory in Al-Bira, also under Melamed's supervision, explains: "In Israel the population cannot use our tehina unless it is marked kosher."

Melamed is not the only source of kashrut certification in the territories. An official of the Mateh Binyamin religious council oversees production at Victor, a Ramallah factory for juices, soft-drink concentrates and salep dessert mix. The official, based in the settlement of Psagot, says a Karnei Shomron rabbi is responsible for kashrut at "10 to 12" tehina factories in the Nablus area.

Getting kashrut certification eases access to the Israeli market; it can also mean greater dependence on Israeli suppliers. Victor, for example, must get its cornflour and food colouring from companies with kashrut supervision. United Trading buys test-tubes, beakers and preservatives from Biolab, an Israeli company.

Israeli consumers may not always know when they are buying West Bank products. United Trading general manager Hanna Gedeon says the West Bank produces much of Israel's tehina. But the manufacturers sell their product to Israeli businessmen, who package it and market it under their own labels. In an apparent effort to avoid a hostile reaction to West Bank goods, the Victor dessert mix package carries the firm's phone number but not its location.

THE MOST VISIBLE of the West Bank firms producing kosher foods is United Trading, owned by Gedeon, Abed Khateeb and Mansour Shawwa, son of deposed Gaza mayor Rashad Shawwa.

Gedeon, 37, is relaxed, casually-dressed, and articulate. His office is spacious, with room for potted trees, couches and a coffee table. In the office building he shares with his brother Suhil Gedeon, the main distributor of computers in the territories, the atmosphere is one of big business.

United Trading began producing soft drinks at its ultra-modern factory in 1984 and marketing them in the West Bank and Gaza Strip under its own "Spree" and "Chek" labels. But Gedeon wanted an American brand name, and began negotiating with Royal Crown and Pepsi for a franchise.

By 1985, an Arabic version of the RC label appeared in the territories. The next goal was the Israeli market. United Trading contacted the chief rabbinate for kashrut certification and asked three Israeli firms for marketing studies.

Gedeon says that the rabbinate was hesitant to cooperate, but finally referred the company to Melamed. Once supervision began, the hitches ended. "He saw that all our concentrates were from the U.S. with an 'O-U' and that our machines were modern and clean. Nothing is touched by human hands. The first six months they gave us 'kosher' and then it went to *kasher lamehadrin*."

Meanwhile, he says, all three marketing firms suggested the same strategy: "Hide that it's from Ramallah. List a Tel Aviv distributor on the bottle, and don't list the producer."

The proposal "wasn't my cup of tea," Gedeon says, and "we decided to make our own test."

Hebrew-English labels were printed, and last summer "we went into the West Jerusalem market with our trucks with Ramallah licence plates and Arab salesmen who spoke Hebrew. It was a chance for people in Jerusalem to see a truck with blue plates going from shop to shop, selling a product from Ramallah."

Despite the marketing firms' warnings, Jews bought the soft drinks, and United Trading's expansion bid went into high gear.

By this March, Gedeon plans to have RC Cola, as well as Royal Crown diet drinks and fruit-flavoured sodas, in 200 supermarkets in Israel.

The company is investing $3 million in new equipment, including a production line that can turn out 600 cans a minute and equipment to produce RC juices. Ground has been broken to expand the factory to 5,500 square metres.

Perhaps most important, an advertising campaign will present RC as an American-quality alternative to Coca-Cola, as the West Bank company makes a high-profile push for Israeli sales.

Gedeon would "rather not give figures" for past sales, but says he is aiming for 5 million cases this year.

IN THE WEST BANK, settlers often talk of good relations with Arabs, while Arabs speak bitterly of the settlements. In the kashrut business, the voices are very different.

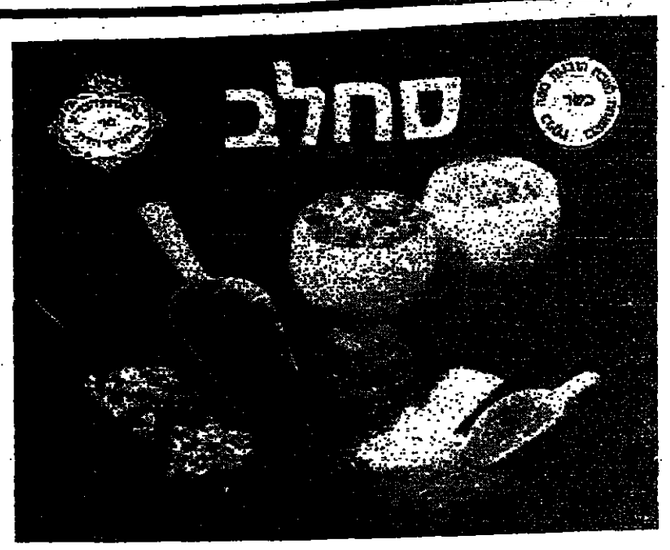
Asked if dealing with settlers causes any problems for United Trading in the Arab market, Gedeon says: "No. We don't look at them as settlers, even though they are. We look at them as religious people, and it is in our nature to respect religious people."

He says United Trading has "excellent cooperation with the people from Beit El."

But the yeshiva student who supervises Gedeon's factory, contacted by phone, said: "There's nothing to discuss," and hung up.

Rabbi Melamed is willing to talk, but admits he was reluctant to certify Arab factories as kosher. "They asked a number of times before we agreed. We had a difficult time deciding to help a factory that could hurt Jewish firms. In the end we decided that the product would reach the Israel market anyway, so it best be kosher."

The Mateh Binyamin official says he's worried about how safe it is to supervise West Bank factories.



A Victor product with its kashrut labels.

At the firm he oversees, he says, he is not afraid. But the number of workers is small, "and if there were hundreds, I might feel differently." And this security question would be more serious in a factory where a supervisor would need to be present at all times – such as a bakery, where flour must be checked to ensure there are no insects.

"Somebody will be interested in messing things up," he says softly, as if trying to keep a secret. "Certainly there are Arabs who will mess it up."

His relation with the owners of the Victor factory, though, are "absolutely okay," and politics have "certainly" caused no problem.

Despite the doubts, kashrut supervision is likely to be a growth sector in the territories. At least one more firm has already applied for certification. A chief rabbinate official says the question of how to deal with further requests is "under discussion."

Gedeon, for his part, says United Trading is already planning an ice cream factory, and has begun negotiations on a franchise for the U.S. brand Eskimo Pie.

The readiness to expand is based at least in part on confidence that the Israeli market is open.

"I think we have set a very good example," Gedeon says. "We were the first to come and say: 'Here is a product from the West Bank,' and make a point of it."

Iraq aims for Teheran

Ian Mather
Baghdad

IRAQ PLANS a "new-style" of war against Iranian civilian targets which "will inflict casualties such as the Iranians have never seen," a senior member of the Iraqi government warned last week.

Foreign observers said they thought this was a threat by Iraq to use long-range Soviet missiles known as "Scaleboards" for the first time.

Taha Yassin Ramadhan, who is effectively Iraq's second most powerful figure after President Saddam Hussein, told me in an exclusive interview that Iraq would impose "a great burden on Iran, in that Iran will lose 10 times as many casualties as it is losing now."

Ramadhan, Deputy Prime Minister and a member of the ruling Revolution Command Council, would not give details of the proposed new threat except to say that it would involve a further fuelling of the so-called "war of the cities" between Iran and Iraq.

The "Scaleboard," known to Nato as the SS-12, has a range of more than 500 miles, compared with the 125-mile range of the Scud B missile both sides have been using hitherto. It can destroy an area the size of 10 football pitches.

As deployed with Soviet troops in Europe, the missile has nuclear capability. If the Iraqis do have it, however, they will certainly have the version with a conventional warhead.

Many foreign military analysts here have concluded that Iraq *has* acquired SS-12s, either from the Soviet Union or indirectly, in the form of Chinese-made copies.

With SS-12s, huge new areas of Iran would be within missile range for the first time – including the capital Teheran, 300 miles from the Iraq border.

Until the present Iranian offensive began, Iraq's strategy was to use its air superiority to attack military and economic targets. On 7 January, President Saddam Hussein warned that Iraq would bomb "entire cities" if the Iranians shelled Basra. Two days later, the Iranian offensive was launched, shells rained down on Basra and the Iraqis abandoned all pretence of confining their air attacks to military targets.

According to Iran's own latest figures, 2,000 Iranian civilians have been killed and 7,000 injured in 20 towns in the past month.

MY INTERVIEW with Ramadhan took place in his office in a heavily-guarded government compound, to which I was driven at high speed in an official blue Mercedes with black curtains.

The minister, a stocky, unsmiling but polite man, wore the bottle-green military-style uniform of the ruling Ba'ath party. There was a pearl-handled pistol in his belt and a gold watch with Saddam Hussein's portrait on his wrist.

He sat at a marble desk facing a large concave TV screen, and from time to time, as his answers were being translated, he took one of the gold pens from a row of gold holders in front of him and appeared to be playing the Iraqi equivalent of noughts and crosses in green ink on a pink pad.

Ramadhan predicted that the war would go on for a long time but that "the larger period is over and what is left is smaller."

He declared: "We have prepared ourselves for the war to go on. We have based our programme on the idea that the war will be long. It will end when Iranian capabilities to fight come to an end.

"As long as Iran has the ability to send human waves, they will carry on. We have learned from experience that their rulers do not care about the people. So long as they have people to send to the front, they will continue the war.

"But at the same time, the war is a greater disaster for them because it is producing unjustified casualties and the destruction of their industrial base."

Ramadhan conceded that areas of Basra, Iraq's second city, had been evacuated. "What we have done in the areas that are being shelled is to remove some of the families to reduce the size of the casualties," he said.

"We have moved women, children and old people to the seven governorates which are near Basra. They have moved into houses owned by the government or have gone to live with relatives. This is a temporary measure until the situation improves. But most of the population of Basra is still living there."

Ramadhan also put a favourable gloss on the military situation in the Basra area, arguing that Iranian gains were of little strategic significance and even intimating that they were all part of an Iraqi game plan.

"Our forces have withdrawn from some No Man's Land territory and other areas which we consider to be killing zones," he said. "These areas are not strategic territory. They provide opportunities to inflict defeat on the Iranians. However, that does not mean we have given up these territories for good."

WESTERN MILITARY analysts here agree that the Iranians are scoring heavily in the propaganda war by taking foreign journalists to areas they have gained. However, they believe Iran has made virtually no gains since the first three days of the present offensive and that its troops have not breached any of Basra's main defences.

It is thought that the front south-east of Basra is still the River Jassim, a tributary of the Shatt al-Arab waterway, just under 10 miles from the city.

While they remain confident that Basra will be held, the military analysts are puzzled that an Iraqi offensive to try to recapture lost territory has so far failed to materialize.

"The Iraqis should counter-attack and do it quickly," one analyst said. "The longer they leave it, the more time the Iranians have to dig themselves in and the harder it then becomes to dislodge them."

Intelligence estimates available here put the number of Iranian troops in south-west Iran at 400,000 around Ahwaz and 270,000 around Dezful.

None of these forces has yet been committed to the offensive. "There is no way Khomeini can order them back to Teheran after promising so much," one observer said. "So, like the Iraqis, the Iranians also have to do something. The final offensive must come soon because the Iranian leadership has so often promised that it will all be over by the end of the Iranian year – 20 March."

(London Observer)

The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Litani.

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ARABIC-LANGUAGE programmes:
18.30 News roundup **18.32** Jennifer – comedy series **19.00** *Health Magazine* **19.30** News
HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at **20.00** with a news roundup **20.02** From the Movies – cinema magazine **20.30** *Between Two Stools – bi-weekly* magazine **21.00** Mabat Newsreel **21.30** Moked **22.05** Final Assignment. Paul Almond's 1982 film about an American T.V. journalist in Russia. Starring Genevieve Bujold, Michael York, Burgess Meredith and Colleen Dewhurst. **23.35** News
JORDAN TV (unofficial):
17.30 Cartoons **18.00** French Hour **19.30** *News in Hebrew* **20.00** News in Arabic **20.30** Three's Company **21.30** The Africans – documentary **22.00** News in English **22.20** Aspen
MIDDLE EAST TV (from T.A. north):
13.30 Another Life **14.00** 700 Club **14.30** Shape-Up **15.00** *Afternoon Movie:* Rehearsal for Murder **16.30** Heathcliff **17.00** Super Book **17.30** Muppets **18.00** That's Hollywood **18.30** The Campbells **19.00** News **20.00** Simon & Simon **21.00** Remington Steele **22.00** 700 Club **23.00** Cagney & Lacey

RADIO

Voice of Music

6.02 Morning Melodies
7.09 Schumann: Carnaval for Piano; Schubert: String Quartet Op.29 (Budapest); Brahms: Symphony No.3 (Philharmonia/Guilini)

9.00 Grieg: "Peer Gynt"; Brahms: Double Concerto Op.102 (Pauk, Edolesku, JSO/ Comissiona); Beethoven: Symphony No.2 (Royal Philharmonic/Dorati)

12.00 Lissy Levin, soprano, Anat Sharon and Irit Robb, piano – Poulenc: 4 songs, Copland: 12 Poems by Dickinson

13.05 Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No.4; Mozart: Violin Concerto No.5; Brahms: String Sextet Op.18

15.00 Musica Viva – Contemporary Work **16.00** Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra under Y. Ahronovitch with L. Tureh, M. Zakai, C. Hornberger, D. Nabokov, National Scottish Choir – Dvorak: Requiem

17.30 Music from the Distant Past **18.00** *Portrait* **19.00** Offenbach: Barcarole from "Hoffman Tales" (Caballe); Paganini: Capricci No.5-8 (Perlman); Mozart: Free Masons Little Cantata (Vienna Opera Choir and Orchestra/Maag) **20.05** Musical Medley

20.30 Opera – Offenbach: Monsieur Choufleuri Restera Chez Lui (Lafont, Mesple, Burles, Trempont, Monte Carlo/ Rosenthal) **23.00** Haydn's Quartets

First Programme

6.03 Programmes for Olim **7.30** Programme in Easy Hebrew **8.05** Compass – with Benny Hendel **9.05** Information for Listeners **10.05** Hebrew songs **11.10** School Broadcasts **11.30** Favourite Old Songs **12.05** Oriental songs **13.00** News in English **13.30** News in French **14.05** Children's programmes **15.30** Education for all **16.05** Programme for Senior Citizens **17.20** Everyman's University **18.05** *Jewish Traditions* **18.50** Bible Reading **19.05** Lesson in *Halacha* **19.30** Programmes for Olim **22.05** A Friend from the Same Planet

Second Programme

6.12 Gymnastics **6.30** Editorial Review **6.53** Green Light – drivers' corner **7.00** This Morning – news magazine **8.05** Making an Issue **9.05** House Call – with Rivka Michaeli **10.05** All Shades of the Network – morning magazine **11.30** Safe Journey **12.10** O.K. on Two **13.00** Midday – news commentary, music **14.05** Arts Magazine **14.30** Humour **15.05** Magic Moments **16.05** Songs and Homework **17.05** Economics Magazine **17.30** On Men and Figures **18.05** *Spotlight* **18.45** Today in Sport **19.05** Today – radio newsreel **19.35** Army and Defence Magazine **20.05** Folklore Magazine **21.05** Song for the Road **22.05** *Treasure Hunt* **00.15** Stage and Screen

Army

6.05 University on the Air **6.30** Open Your Eyes – songs, information **7.07** *Morning Supplement – with Eitan Lifshitz* **8.05** Good Morning Israel **9.05** In the Morning – with Eli Yisraeli **10.05** Coffee Break **11.05** Right Now – with Rafi Reshef **13.05** *Daily Meeting – with Orly Yaniv* **15.05** What's Doing – with Erez Tal **16.05** 841 Travels North **16.20** Four in the Afternoon **17.00** Evening Newsreel **18.05** Economics Magazine **19.05** Music **20.05** Military Literature Magazine **21.00** Mabat – TV newsreel **21.30** University on the Air **22.05** Popular songs **23.05** The 24th Hour **00.05** Night Birds – songs, chat

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
Alliance Francaise: *Programme pour Enfants 4;* **Beit Agron:** The Never Ending Story 4; Nadia 5:45; The Big Chill 7:30; Monty Python – Brazil 9:30; **Cinematheque:** I was Born, but... 7; Oliver Twist 7 (small hall); La Tête contre les Murs 9 (small hall); Prom Queen 9:30; **Eden:** Detective School Dropouts 4:30, 7, 9; **Edison:** Avenging Force 4:30, 7, 9; **Habira:** Avanti Popolo 5:15, 7, 9; **Jerusalem Theatre:** Ginger and Fred 6:45, 9:15; **Kfir:** Back to School 4:30, 7, 9; **Mitchell:** Vagabonde 7, 9; **Orgil:** Ruthless People 4:30, 7, 9:15; **Orion Or 1:** Et la Tendresse? Bordel 4:30, 7, 9; **Orion Or 3:** Brother from Another Planet 4:30, 7, 9; **Orion Or 4:** Flesh and Blood 6:45, 9; Desperately Seeking Susan 4:30; **Orion Or 5:** Ricochets 4:30, 6:45; The Color Purple 8:30; **Orsa:** Heartbreak Ridge 4, 6:45, 9:15; **Ron:** Finders Keepers 4:30, 7, 9; **Semadar:** My Beautiful Laundrette 7, 9:15.

TEL AVIV
Beit Leissin: Bananas 11:15 p.m. **Ben-Yehuda:** Legal Eagles 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Beth Hatefutsoth:** His People 8; **Chen 1:** Heartbreak Ridge 4:30, 7, 9:40; **Chen 2:** Joshua Then and Now 7:25, 9:45; **Chen 3:** Malcolm 5, 7:30, 9:40; **Chen 4:** Blue Velvet 11, 2:35, 5, 7:30, 9:45; **Chen 5:** Ruthless People 11, 2, 5, 7:30, 9:45; **Cinema One:** Raw Deal 4:30; 7:15, 9:30; **Cinema Two:** Top Gun 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Dekel:** Violets are Blue 7:15, 9:30; **Dizengoff 1:** My Beautiful Laundrette 11, 1:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40; **Dizengoff 2:** Mona Lisa 7:15, 9:40; **Dizengoff 3:** Sid and Nancy 11, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40; **Drive-In:** Thunderbolt and Lightfoot 7:30, 9:40; **Esther:** Instant Justice 5, 7:15, 9:40; **Gat:** Jumpin' Jack Flash 5, 7:15, 9:40; **New Gordon:** Avanti Popolo 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Hakolnoa ZOA House:** Ginger and Fred 4:30, 7:15, 9:30 (exc. Tue. & Wed.); **Hod:** Detective School Dropouts 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Institut Francais:** Partenaires 7:30; **Israel Cinematheque:** Silent Movie 7; The Floating Weeds 9:30; **Lev 1:** Orion Belt 5, 7:40, 9:40; **Lev 2:** The Burmese Harp 2, 5, 7:30, 9:40; **Lev 3:** Trouble in Mind 7:40, 9:40; A Trip to Bountiful 2, 5; **Lev 4:** Choose Me 2, 5, 7:40, 9:40; **Limor Hamehudash:** Peggy Sue Got Married 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Maxim:** Ricochets 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Orly:** Back to School 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Paris:** Throne of Blood 12, 2, 4, 7:15, 9:30; **Peer:** A Breed Apart 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Shehaf:** Hannah and Her Sisters 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Sivan:** My Third Problem (Otto Der Film) 5, 7:30, 9:40; **Tamuz Hamehudash:** Barry Lindon 8:30; **Tchelet:** The Gods Must Be Crazy 5, 7:15, 9:30; **Tel Aviv:** Avenging Force 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **Tel Aviv Museum:** Shoah (I), 1; Shoah (II) 6:30 (Wed. only); **Zafon:** The Mission 4:30, 7, 9:30.

HAIFA
Amphitheatre: Hannah and Her Sisters 4:30, 7, 9:15; **Armon:** Heartbreak Ridge 4:30, 6:45, 9:15; **Atzmon 1:** Arctic Heat 4:30, 7, 9:15; **Atzmon 2:** Back to School 4:45, 7:15, 9:30; **Chen:** Instant Justice 4:30, 6:45, 9; **Keren Or Hamehudash:** Forbidden 4:30, 7, 9:15; **Orah:** Coca Cola Kid 4.30, 7, 9:15; **Orly:** Ruthless People 7, 9:15; **Peer:** Jumpin' Jack Flash 4:30, 7, 9:15; **Rav-Gat 1:** Peggy Sue Got Married 4:30, 7, 9:15; **Rav-Gat 2:** Blue Velvet 4:30, 6:45, 9:15; **Ron:** Detective School Dropouts 4:30, 6:45, 9; **Shavit:** Macaroni 7, 9.

RAMAT GAN
Armon: Heartbreak Ridge 4:30, 7, 9:40; **Lily:** Hannah and Her Sisters 7:15, 9:30; **Oasis:** Jumpin' Jack Flash 7:15, 9:40; **Ordea:** Detective School Dropouts 7:15, 9:30; **Rav-Gan 1:** Ruthless People 5, 7:35, 9:45; **Rav-Gan 2:** A Room With a View 4:45, 7, 9:40; **Rav-Gan 3:** Malcolm 5, 7:15, 9:40; **Rav Gan 4:** Joshua Then and Now 5, 7:20, 9:40.

HERZLIYA
Dan Accadia: Out of Africa 6:30, 9:30; **Daniel Hotel:** Vagabonde 7:15, 9:30 (exc. Wed.); **David:** Desperately Seeking Susan 4:30; Hannah and Her Sisters 7:15, 9:30; **Hechal:** Detective School Dropouts 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **New Tiferet:** Joshua Then and Now 7:15, 9:15.

HOLON
Armon Hamehudash: Angry Harvest 7:15, 9:30; **Migdal:** Heartbreak Ridge 7:15, 9:30; **Savoy:** Hannah and Her Sisters 4:30, 7, 9:30.

BAT YAM
Atzmaut: Avenging Force 4:30, 7:15, 9:30.

GIVATAYIM
Hadar: Avenging Force 4:30, 7:15, 9:30.

RAMAT HASHARON
Kochav: Down and Out in Beverly Hills 9:30 p.m.; Footloose 7.

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. Hechal 1: Detective School Dropouts 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **G.G. Hechal 2:** Back to School 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; **G.G. Hechal 3:** Murphy's Law 4:30, 7:15, 9:30.

KIRYAT ONO
Community Centre: The Sure Thing 6:30 (exc. Tue.); Out of Africa 9 (exc. Tue.).

WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS 8.15 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS 163.30 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM
Museums
ISRAEL MUSEUM. Exhibitions: Ketef Hinnom, includes priestly blessing ◊ New York Now, Six New Generation New York City Artists ◊ Jews of Goteborg, Photographs and items of Jews of Goteborg, Sweden ◊ *Alvar Aalto, 1898-1976, master of* Finnish architecture and design ◊ New Painting Acquisitions: Auguste Renoir, Pablo Picasso ◊ Joshua Borkovsky: Mirrors, The Garden, primordial landscapes ◊ Fresh Paint, trends among young Israeli artists ◊ Kakiemon, 400 years of Japanese Porcelain Tradition ◊ Animals in Ancient Art (Rockefeller) ◊ Islamic Art, architecture, arabesque, etc. ◊ Ancient Glass Exhibit ◊ Bethlehem Embroidery, dresses and costume parts. ◊ Photography in Nature ◊ Art in Context, audio-visual programme ◊ News in Antiquities ◊ Big and Small relative sizes in life, art and children's world ◊ Jewels of Children's Literature ◊ Permanent exhibitions of Archeology, Judaica and Ethnic Art.
VISITING HOURS: Main Museum 10-5. At 11: Guided tour of Museum in English. 4: Picture Books, Puppets and Songs (in English) for children 3-6.

L.A. MAYER MUSEUM FOR ISLAMIC ART. Visiting hours: Sun.-Thurs. 10-1; 3:30-6. Fri. closed. Sat. and holiday eves 10-1. 2 Hapalmach St., Tel. 661291/2. Bus No. 15.

Conducted Tours
HADASSAH – Hourly tours of the Chagall Windows at Kiryat Hadassah on the half hour. * Information, reservations: 02-416333, 02-446271.
HEBREW UNIVERSITY
English tours daily Sunday through Thursday: 1. Mount Scopus, 11 a.m. from the Bronfman Reception Centre, Administration Building. Buses 9, 28, 4a, 26 & 23 to the first underground stop 2. Givat Ram Campus, 9 & 11 a.m. from the Sherman Building. Buses 9, 28, & 24. Tel. 882819.
AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Mizrachi Women). Free Morning Tours – 8 Alkalai Street, Jerusalem. Tel. 02-699222.

TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM. Exhibitions: Sittings ◊ Oskar Kokoschka, 1886-1980. Selection of Prints and Albums. Trends in Geometric Abstract Art ◊ Edvard Munch, prints: Death, Love and Anxiety ◊ VISITING HOURS: Sun.-Thur. 10-2, 5-9. Sat. 11-2, 7-10; Fri. closed. **Helena Rubinstein Pavilion: Exhibition:** David Hockney Photo-collages. **Visiting Hours:** Sun.-Thur. 10-2; 5-9. Sat. 11-2; 7-10 Fri. closed.

Conducted Tours
AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Mizrachi Women). Free Morning Tours – Tel Aviv, Tel. 220187, 233154.
WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv; 232939; Jerusalem, 226060; Haifa, 388817.
ORT. To visit our technological High Schools call Jerusalem 533141; Tel Aviv 396171, 233231, 240529; Netanya 33744.
PIONEER WOMEN – NA'AMAT. Morning tours. Tel Aviv, 210791, Jerusalem 244878.

HAIFA
Museums
HAIFA MUSEUM: 26 Shabbtai Levy St. Tel. 04-523255. Exhibitions: **Modern Art:** Facing the Mirror – The Israeli Caricature, Now. **Ancient Art** – Jewish coins of the Second Temple Period, Egyptian textiles, terracotta figurines. **Music & Ethnology:** world paper cuts. **Open:** Sun.-Thur. & Sat. 10-1; Tues., Thur. & Sat. also 6-8. **Ticket also admits to National Maritime, Pre-historic and Japanese Museums.**
WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-640840.

BE CAREFUEL

Conserve energy.

suspicion
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SOCCER

Betar win

By PAUL KOHN

NETANYA. – French soccer champions Paris St. Germain showed signs of their winter layoff from league football as they lost to a selected Betar eleven in front of 3,500 fans in an entertaining game in the new stadium here yesterday.

Playing almost in slow motion, the French champions were at their best only in short patches of the match. Only Yugoslav midfielder Susic showed his true form and French international defender William Ayache displayed touches of his brilliance in the first half in which he played.

Betar, who were without Uri Malmilian and Shlomo Shirazi who were injured, were totally in command in the first half. Eli Ohana gave Betar the lead from close range after receiving an Avi Cohen cross just before half time. Daniel Zoher, a St. Germain reserve, levelled the score in the 66th minute and Nissim Cohen shot in the winner for Betar eight minutes before the end.

Today at Kiryat Eliezer stadium in Haifa, a four team tournament gets under way with Borussia Moenchengladbach playing Maccabi Tel Aviv at 4 p.m. followed by F.C. Cologne against Maccabi Haifa at 6 p.m.

In lower league state cup matches, Hapoel Holon ousted second division leaders Hapoel Haifa 2-1. Benny Damti scored both Holon's goals. The only remaining fourth division side still in the competition after yesterday's matches is Hapoel Beer Yaakov who beat third division Hapoel Bat Yam 3-1. Hapoel Hadera beat Hapoel Yehud 2-0 and another second division team to go out were Maccabi Ramat Amidar who lost 2-1 to Maccabi Shaarayim. Hapoel Ramat Gan and Hapoel Jerusalem drew 1-1 and will have to play again.

TENNIS

Mixed fortune for Israelis abroad

Post Sports Staff
and agencies

Israel's tennis players are having mixed fortunes in their quest for fame and fortune in professional tournaments now taking place in the United States and France.

Shahar Perkis who has been out of form for quite a while scored his best win on the pro circuit since last April when in the $175,000 tournament he beat Jim Grabb of the United States 6-4, 6-3 in a first round match. Grabb is ranked 95 in the world, Perkis is 157.

Gilad Bloom wasn't as lucky as he might have been and just missed joining Perkis in the second round, he went out to Frenchman Thierry Tulasne, the third seed in a tough three setter, 5-7, 6-3, 7-6.

At the U.S. Pro Indoor Championships in Philadelphia Shlomo Glickstein couldn't make it through the final qualifying round and went out to an unknown opponent, Martin Blackman of Barbados, 1-6, 7-5, 6-3. Amos Mansdorf is ranked 16 in the tournament, which is considered to be the first big event on the Nabisco Grand Prix calendar, and has a bye into the second round.

BASKETBALL

Key positions up for grabs

By DON GOULD

TEL AVIV. – With two rounds left to go in the National Basketball League, only two of the 12 teams know where they will finish in the standings when the regular season is completed next Monday. Champions Maccabi Tel Aviv will finish first and Hapoel Ramat Gan will finish last and will be one of the two teams to be relegated at the end of the season. Everything else is tighter than a drum and this week's 20th round didn't help clear the picture.

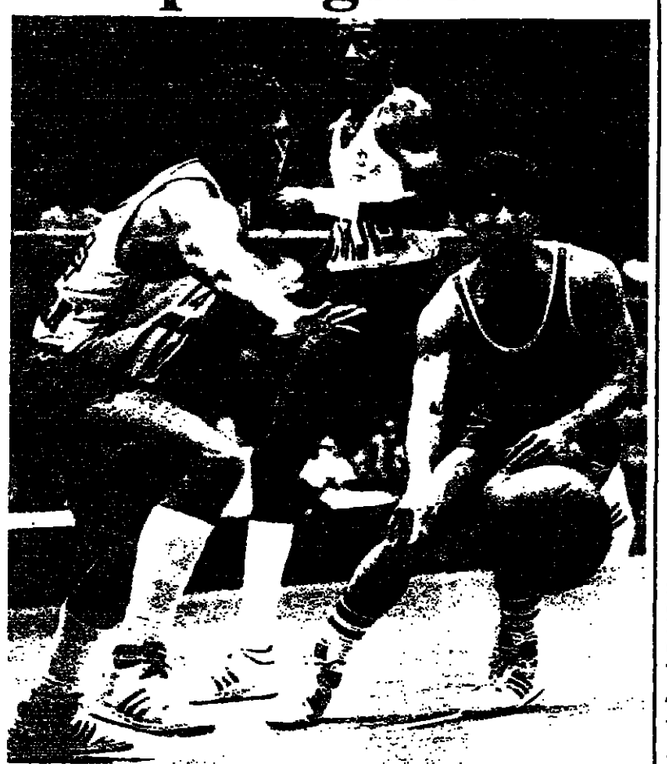
Key positions for the playoffs, the eighth and final playoff position, and the second relegation spot are still up for grabs, and only tomorrow's 21st round and Monday's conclusion will settle matters.

Maccabi Ramat Gan and Eitan Gvat, locked in a battle to avoid relegation, both lost on Monday night. Eitan Gvat was smothered by Hapoel Holon 88-67 and Maccabi Ramat Gan tried hard, but came out on the short end of a 106-102 score against Galil Elyon. Galil were without the services of their high scorer Brad Leaf, who was injured, but Erez Hazar and Curtis Berry with 28 and 25 points respectively picked up the cudgels, thus opening the way for tomorrow night's head-on clash with Hapoel Holon to see who will take over undisputed possession of second place.

Hapoel Jerusalem's victory over Hapoel Ramat Gan 133-109 has now tied them in the standings with Maccabi Ramat Gan and Eitan Gvat. Billy Miller's 28 points led six Jerusalem double-scorers in a game where both teams put little emphasis on defensive figure play and concentrated on offence. Hapoel Jerusalem will visit Gvat tomorrow night for a game that assures part of the three-way tie to avoid relegation will be broken.

Hapoel Haifa, hanging onto a slim one-game lead for the eighth and final playoff spot, fought hard against Maccabi Tel Aviv, but finally succumbed 81-103. Maccabi managed only a 51-50 halftime lead, but then Kevin Magee and Lee Johnson went to work and Haifa couldn't keep up with the pace. Magee took game and League scoring honours, netting 32 points while pulling down 16 rebounds. Johnson wasn't far behind with 29 points. Hapoel Haifa get a breather tomorrow when they travel to Hapoel Ramat Gan, but will have to face a desperate Eitan Gvat in next Monday's concluding round.

Fourth position is the last of the home court advantage spots for the playoffs. Its current occupant, Elitzur Netanya, has been trying to stave off the late season rush of Maccabi Haifa.



REACHING OUT. – Amos Frishman of Hapoel Tel Aviv (left) and Adi Gordon of Maccabi Haifa rush to a loose ball while Don Robinson looks on in Monday's match which Haifa won 105-97. (Guthmann)

In this week's 20th round they had their work cut out for them by visiting Betar Tel Aviv. At one point in the first half they were down by 16 points but Greg Giddens, who finished the game with 22 points, led Netanya's comeback to help his team to a hard-fought 88-83 victory.

Maccabi Haifa, one game behind Elitzur Netanya, got by Hapoel Tel Aviv 105-97 at the Ussishkin Stadium in a game that was not as close as the final score. Doron Shefa, 28 points, Richie Johnson and John Flowers, 20 points apiece, led the attack and more than offset Don Robinson's 30 point, 19 rebound performance for Hapoel Tel Aviv.

Standings after 20 rounds

		*	won	lost	Pts. for	Pts. agst	Points
1.	Mac. TA	(1)	19	1	2203	1605	39
2.	Holon	(2)	15	5	1853	1665	35
3.	Galil Elyon	(3)	15	5	1867	1784	35
4.	Netanya	(4)	13	7	1911	1844	33
5.	Mac. Haifa	(6)	12	8	1894	1811	32
6.	Hap. TA	(5)	11	9	1762	1759	31
7.	Betar TA	(7)	8	12	1724	1808	28
8.	Hap. Haifa	(8)	7	13	1740	1834	27
9.	Mac. R. Gan	(9)	6	14	1794	1966	26
10.	Hap. J'lem	(11)	6	14	1764	1907	26
11.	Gvat	(10)	6	14	1708	1873	26
12.	Hap. R. Gan	(12)	2	18	1767	2131	22

* 19th round positions

Final two Rounds

Round 21		Tomorrow night
Netanya	v	Hap. TA
Mac. Haifa	v	Mac. Ramat Gan
Galil Elyon	v	Holon
Eitan Gvat	v	Hap. J'lem
Hap. Ramat Gan	v	Hap. Haifa
Betar TA	v	Mac. TA
	v	
Round 22		**Monday 9th**
Mac. TA	v	Netanya
Betar TA	v	Hap. Ramat Gan
Hap. Haifa	v	Eitan Gvat
Hap. J'lem	v	Galil Elyon
Holon	v	Mac. Haifa
Mac. Ramat Gan	v	Hap. TA

NBA

Lakers take a tumble

NEW YORK (AP). – The Dallas Mavericks, after winning their NBA regular-season series against the Los Angeles Lakers, aren't quite ready to proclaim themselves the best team in the Western Conference.

"We know we're good enough to play with any team in the league," guard Derek Harper said after the Mavericks beat the Lakers 103-99 on Monday night at the Inglewood Forum.

"This was probably our biggest win of the season," center James Donaldson added. "It means a lot to know we can come in here and beat them and it should help us in the playoffs should we meet them."

Mark Aguirre scored 27 points for Dallas, which handed the Lakers only their second defeat at home this season.

At halftime, the Lakers had a 55-50 advantage, but they scored only 18 points in the third period to give the Mavericks the lead.

In other games, it was Washington 104, New York 98; Denver 140, Los Angeles Clippers 112; and Seattle 108, New Jersey 100.

CRICKET

England effort means change of travel plans

DEVONPORT (Reuter). – Inspired captaincy and astute bowling changes from Mike Gatting coupled with two deadly spells of bowling from Ian Botham and John Emburey gave England an unlikely victory over the West Indies in the world series cup yesterday.

After three consecutive defeats, the jaded England side had all but given up hope of reaching next week's best-of-three final and had already booked a flight home this Saturday.

Their victory chances receded further when they were restricted to a modest 177 for nine in 50 overs in yesterday's match. The West Indies, however, contributed to extra work for the England team's travel agents when they continued their dismal batting form, collapsing to 148 all out in the face of tight English bowling and magnificent fielding.

West Indies must now score 374 runs and beat Australia on Friday in the last preliminary game to better England's run rate and earn the right to meet the home side in the final.

"If they can do that then they deserve to win the cup," said Gatting after the game, the highest 50-over score is 323 for two by Australia against Sri Lanka in 1983/84.

Only three England players reached double figures with opener Chris Broad keeping the side together with a gutsy 76, hitting six boundaries in a 143-ball stay at the wicket.

	P	W	T	L	Pts.	Run-rate
Australia	7	5	0	3	5	4.47
England	8	4	0	3	5	5.02
West Indies	7	3	0	4	3	3.43

Remaining Match: Feb 6 – Australia v West Indies, Sydney.

Best-of-Three Final: Feb 8 – Melbourne, Feb 11 – Sydney, Feb 13 – Melbourne.

In Madras, left-arm spinner Maninder Singh dragged India back into contention on the opening day of a tense first Test, taking three of the five Pakistani wickets to fall for 247 runs.

Pakistan are well-placed, but they had been in total control, amassing 211 for two by tea with opener Shoaib Mohammad (101) and Javed Miandad (94) completely dominating the Indian attack.

The Australia rebels, 78 behind on first innings, were 85 for two in their second innings at the close of the fourth day of the fourth and final five-day match against South Africa in Port Elizabeth.

SCORES: Australian XI 455 for nine declared and 85 for two. South Africa 533.

AMERICA'S CUP

Death threat to Conner

FREMANTLE (AFP). – Police in two states were yesterday investigating a death threat to *Stars and Stripes* skipper Dennis Conner.

A police spokesman here said that an anonymous caller had made the threat to a Melbourne television station yesterday.

The caller said he would not let the cup leave Australia, and that he would travel to Fremantle to carry out his threat.

Extra security has been placed around Conner, who is poised for victory with a 3-0 lead over the Australian defender *Kookaburra III* in the best-of-seven final.

Conner was out on the water again yesterday, using the lay-day to further fine tune his yacht for today's fourth race.

A *Stars and Stripes* syndicate spokesman described the threat as unfortunate and said Conner was aware of the circumstances.

"It's understandable that some feelings could be running high," he added.

The threat came one day after a hoax call that a bomb had been placed aboard *Kookaburra III*. The *Kookaburra* crew were warned of the threat during Monday's race but decided to continue.

SQUASH

High quality entry

By JACK LEON
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. – Six players ranked among the top 50 in the world head the men's seedings at the fifth Seagram-Sabra Israel Open Squash Championships, which start today at 11 a.m. at the Herzliya Squash Centre, with admission free. England's Lucy Souter, currently ranked third in the world, is top seed in the women's competition.

The six male players in order are Martin Bodimeade (England), Gamal El Amir (Egypt), Cerryg Jones (Wales), title-holder Mohammed Awad (Egypt), Rick Zondvliet (Holland) and Tony Bretkelly (New Zealand). Completing the eight top seeds in the giant 85-strong draw are Will Hosey (Ireland) and John Clarke (England). The eight-to-16 seeds are headed by Israelis Jonny Kaye and Tal Ben-Shahar, tournament director Marty Elahora told me yesterday.

Following Souter in the women's seedings are Angela Smith of England, who is going for her fifth straight Open crown, Ireland's Rebecca Best and Jayne Ashton, also from Britain. Israeli Nadine Kremer is seventh in the 24-draw. English players Israel Geffen and Ron Coops are defending their respective over-35 and over-45 men's titles, Einhorn reported.

A record total of 31 overseas guests and 105 home participants are competing in the six-day meet, which as usual, is being held under the auspices of the Israel Squash Rackets Association.

SPORTS BRIEFS

NHL. – Toronto Maple Leafs 8, Philadelphia Flyers 4.

CRICKET. – England cricketer Wilf Slack, who collapsed unconscious during net practice in Devonport, Tasmania yesterday, has spent two nights in hospital although his condition is not causing alarm.

The West Indian-born Middlesex batsman, who was taken to hospital for observation after regaining consciousness, is expected to be released today.

ENGLISH SOCCER. – Injury-prone England captain Bryan Robson is poised to make yet another comeback for Manchester United this weekend.

Robson made a successful, if unspectacular, return to action in a reserve team friendly at Macclesfield on Monday night.

ATHLETICS. – Getting bumped off a plane might have cost Eamonn Coghlan, the fastest indoor miler, a place in the world indoor championships.

Coghlan had been scheduled to compete in the 3,000-meter race in Ottawa on Saturday, but he never made it there because he was unable to get on a flight from New York's Laguardia airport.

England's leading goal scorer

Clive Allen scores with touch

LONDON (AP). – Back in 1961, Les Allen was on the Tottenham Hotspur team that made soccer history by becoming the first club to win the English League and Cup "double" this century.

Twenty-six years on, son Clive is keeping up the family tradition, wooing a new generation of Tottenham fans as he threatens to smash the country's all-time goalscoring record.

For the Allen family, professional soccer is in the blood.

Twenty-three of Allen's 33 goals have come in league matches and he needs another 15 to 20 games to break the Tottenham club record for a single season, set by Jimmy Greaves 24 years ago.

He is also on course for an even bigger target, the national record of 41 League and Cup goals in a season, also set by Greaves.

"Clive is the best in the country, at the moment, at doing what he is paid for – scoring goals," said Tottenham Manager David Pleat.

"He is unique in English soccer. He does not have the pace of some players and we keep telling him he's selfish, but he can look one way and shoot the other. He's the coolest finisher I have ever worked with."

Clive Allen hit a hat-trick as Tottenham thrashed London neighbours West Ham 5-0 in an English League Cup quarter-final replay last night.

Allen, also on target in the drawn opening encounter at West Ham last Tuesday, struck three times in nine minutes to take his goal-count for the season to 33.

Belgian Nico Claesen broke the deadlock in the sixth minute and Glenn Hoddle added another goal midway through the second half before Allen found the net in the 80th, 85th – a penalty – and 89th minutes.

Tottenham face championship leaders arsenal in the opening game of the two-leg semifinals on Sunday.

Although only now displaying his scoring talents to the full at Tottenham, Allen's potential was spotted early.

Even as a teenager, he had a sharp eye for goal, scoring a hat-trick for Queens Park Rangers in his first ever league game as a professional when he was 17.

As he continued to score goals for Rangers – the club his father managed after his playing days were over – the rest of the country sat up and took notice.

Within two years, the teenage Allen had been shunted back and forth across London in a series of expensive transfers.

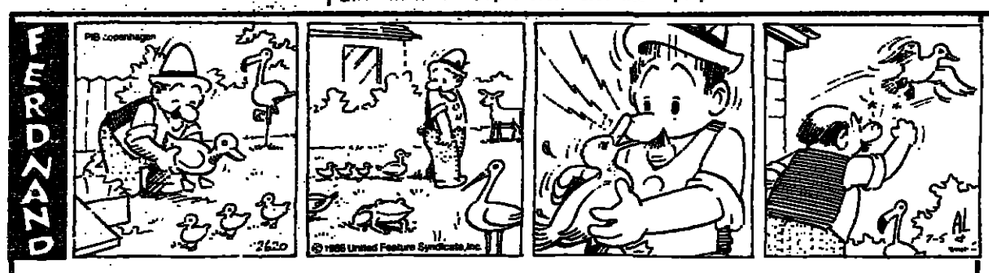
First, he moved for 1 million pounds from Queen's Park Rangers to Arsenal, where he stayed just 62 days without playing a single League game before being packed off to Crystal Palace in exchange for full-back Kenny Sansom, now a regular on the national team.

Allen stayed at Palace for one season before moving back to Rangers. Then, in August 1984, Tottenham stepped in with another big fee that took the striker's total cost in transfers rocketing towards the 4 million pound mark.

Until the end of last season, Allen was unable to repay Tottenham fans with what he had been bought to do – score goals. He made only occasional appearances, lurching from one injury crisis to another, and underwent two operations.

But as he regained full fitness, the single-minded Allen ended the 1985-6 league season on a high, scoring eight goals in seven games.

Now, at 25 years old, it's as if he's never been away.



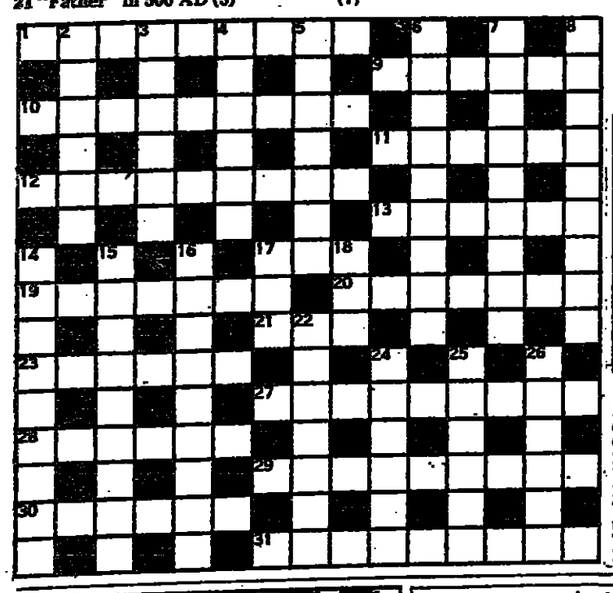
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

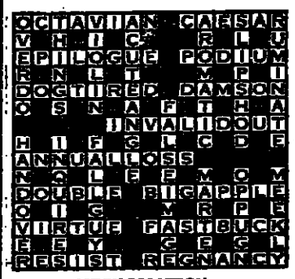
1 Trumped in error—so unwise (9)
9 It's right to annoy the park-keeper! (6)
10 William, due to be paid, is waving (9)
11 This checks any increase in population (6)
12 Line to go over in an elegy maybe (9)
13 Spotted at entrance—that's material (6)
17 Not divided about a point (3)
19 Weapon produced quietly on raid being organised (7)
20 Sewers are almost unnecessary (7)
21 "Father" in 500 AD (3)
23 He wants some fitted wardrobes (6)
27 A way hair may be dressed in a ball if there's plenty (9)
28 Try once more! (6)
29 Hill guide—one causing great distress (9)
30 Observe it's not very cold (6)
31 Yet again supply helpers in break (9)

DOWN

2 A female gets assistance when males are around! (6)
3 Outstanding adjudicator having lie-in (6)
4 Waddle about—don't hurry (6)
5 Figure on following no hack (7)
6 Damaged and delicate stuff over-valued (9)
7 Remains after breakfast, as press man will in a ship (9)
8 Painters engaged by Civil Service head—such asininity! (9)
14 Looking for a penny fruit, grin naughtily (9)
15 She had little company for a time (4-5)
16 21 in leading role (9)
17 Ring a cleric, being eccentric (3)
18 Among friends at the last (3)
22 The guy a medical worker stood up (7)
24 Turn-coat beast! (6)
25 Caught a girl on the rebound (6)
26 Article Ten can be got over (6)



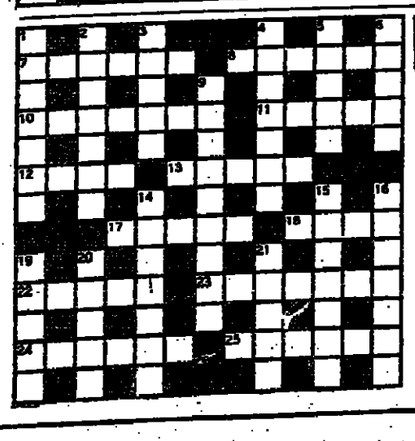
Yesterday's Solution



QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Present, 5 Asian, 8 Gouda, 9 Incisor, 10 Norfolk, 11 Opera, 12 Heyday, 14 Myrtle, 17 Briar, 19 Offhand, 22 Topical, 23 Vinyl, 24 Tryst, 25 Reserve. DOWN: 1 Pagan, 2 Equerry, 3 Erato, 4 Tricky, 5 Anchovy, 6 Issue, 7 Narrate, 12 Habitat, 13 Apricot, 15 Trainer, 18 Bowler, 18 Imply, 20 Fives, 21 Delve.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

7 Heart
8 Missive
10 Withdraw
11 Sea
12 Volcano
13 Precipitous
17 Ascend
18 Possess
22 Frequently
23 Unaffected
24 Roof timber
25 Rule

DOWN

1 Red
3 Immediate
3 Wide
4 Fan
5 Scatter
6 Incorrect
9 Declaration
14 Booty
15 Blacksmith
16 Refuse
19 Trouble
20 Rigid
21 Bend down

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Tel Aviv: Bass, 66 Frishman, 237326; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7 Amsterdam, 225142.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Shuali, E. Yaffe, Ra'anana.
Netanya: Porat, 76 Petah Tikva, 40967.
Haifa: Mazor, 97 Hameginim, 524113..

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Tel Aviv: Rokah (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado

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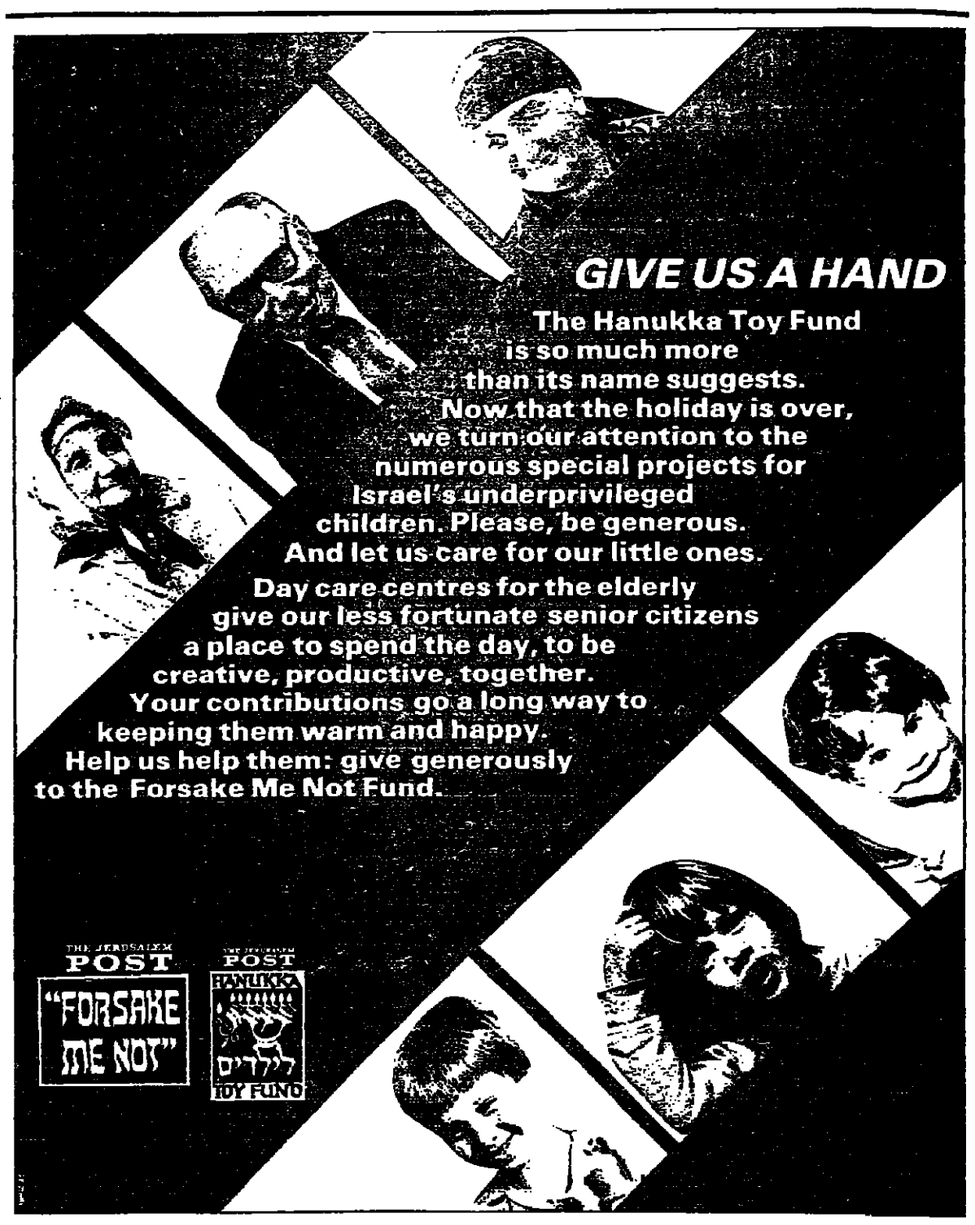
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Beersheba 74767	Nahariya *923333
Carmiel *988555	Netanya *23333
Dan Region *781111	Petah Tikva *9231111
Eilat 7233	Rehovot *461333
Hadera 22333	Rishon LeZion 942333
Haifa *512233	Safed 30333
Hatzor 36333	Tel Aviv *240111
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The National Poison Control Centre at Rambam Hospital, phone (04) 529205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
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Economist says miles of red tape are a disincentive

Enticing the foreigner

By SIMON LOUISSON

TEL AVIV. – The new economic plan will do nothing to attract foreign investment, says economist Meir Eldar. Eldar, a private consultant, believes the Operation Independence economic task force is deluding itself if it thinks the budget cuts and the changes in the tax system and the capital markets – the main features of the plan – will attract foreign investment.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* this week, Eldar said the main disincentive for foreign investment here was the red tape the potential investor had to wade through to launch his project. Eldar's studies show that on average it costs the foreign investor over $400,000 to negotiate the bureaucratic maze, and this does not take into account delays which can amount to thousands of days and other indirect costs. In addition the taxpayer must foot a $275,000 bill to process every application by a foreign investor.

Eldar believes a simple, cheap and effective way to entice foreign investors is to establish a series of free export processing zones (Fepzs). The idea, which he has been developing for over 10 years, will be tabled later this month in the Knesset Economic Committee. He believes the time is ripe for acceptance of the concept.

As a small country with limited resources, Israel must export to survive economically. But the economic policies of the past 10 years have produced only stagnation, Eldar says. Foreign investment is the key to growth, but Israel today is an extremely unattractive place for foreign investors – even Jewish ones. In 1985, for example, foreign investment was less than $50m.

Apart from foreign investment, the only other means of stimulating growth is through the implementation of drastic budget cuts or government investment which will only increase the budget deficit. Government investment is likely to lead to high inflation while severe budget cuts are irrealizable because the sacred cows of social welfare payments and nearly full employment cannot be touched, as Finance Minister Nissim has learned.

Eldar doubts the privatization of public enterprises, even if a politically acceptable method of achieving it could be found, would raise the capital necessary to stimulate growth.



Meir Eldar.

Some of Israel's other problems, such as the brain-drain and the need, for strategic reasons, to settle areas such as the Negev and the Galilee, could be solved by the establishment of Fepzs.

While Israel has stagnated, countries that have established Fepzs, such as Hongkong, Singapore and South Korea, have flourished. Even the U.S. has established over 60 Fepzs. Per capita income in Hongkong has risen from around $250 in the 1950s to over $6500 today, due in large part to the Fepz there.

The example of places such as Hongkong proves that Israel has used the wrong approach to attract foreign investment, says Eldar. In Hongkong no subsidies or tax exemptions are given to foreign companies and labour costs exceed those in Israel, yet it attracts over $1b. of investment annually. The attraction lies in the lack of bureaucratic hassle confronting those who establish a business there. Foreign investors interested in setting up operations here have to deal with over 17 government departments and agencies.

So what is a Fepz? It is an industrial park or harbour area where all transactions are carried out in foreign currency. There are no import or export restrictions and no indirect taxes. The main feature of the zone, is that domestic economic policies and bureaucratic procedures do not apply in it. Enterprises are established with foreign currency and must be export oriented.

Under the proposed scheme a free export processing zone authority would be established to administer industry in the zone and attract industry to it. An essential aspect would be the establishment of a "one-stop-shop" under the auspices of the Prime Minister's Office which would have the power to deal with all bureaucratic matters and cut the time required to process an investment application.

For dealing with wages and infrastructure costs, companies would establish accounts where deposits would be made in foreign currency and withdrawals made in shekels. Each zone could be controlled by a private company subject to the authority. Eldar says there would be no difficulty isolating the zones from the rest of the economy and there would be virtually no incentive for companies to break local foreign currency regulations.

Eldar proposes establishing Fepzs initially in the science-based industry complex in Carmiel, in the Western Galilee, Eilat, southern Arava, Jerusalem and Sderot. These areas would attract foreign investment because of Israel's sophisticated scientific institutions and research centres, its modern industrial infrastructure, its highly skilled labour force, and its free-trade agreements with Europe and the U.S.

The Fepzs would try to attract high-tech labour intensive industries. Once a company was accepted it would be able to begin operating the next day.

Eldar says that the Fepzs would be nothing like the Free Trade Zone in Eilat which he says is really a tax-free zone. Companies that want to establish operations there still have to deal with the Israeli bureaucracy. While operating the zone costs the government over $10m. a year in lost taxes, Fepzs would not cost a cent in lost taxes.

BANKING ON IT/Pinhas Landau

A tale of two shoe stores

Previous articles in this series examined the basic advantages of computerizing everyday retail transactions such as supermarket shopping. The connection of the check-out counter – the point of sale – to a computer has created a new reality called EPOS, the Electronic Point of Sale.

If the check-out counter is connected not merely to the shop's own computer or to the central computer of the chain of which that outlet is part, but also to the computer of a bank or other financial organization, it can pass the information on customers' transactions directly to the body that has to make money move from the buyer to the seller. The moving of money according to orders received by the bank's computer from the computer at the point of sale, ie., the vendor, after the purchaser has signed or authorized the transaction, is EFT/POS – electronic funds transfer at the point of sale.

AS with EPOS, EFT/POS is proving to be a runaway success, with the planners' fears turning out to have been exaggerated. The response of the retailers and customers who use the system has been overwhelmingly positive. To understand why, it may be easiest to compare two transactions involving the old and new systems.

CASE 1: The customer, Tom, enters Harry's shoe shop with his credit card, intent on buying footwear.

After selecting a pair of shoes, Tom proceeds to the cashier, ie., the place where the shop formally hands over the goods in return for the customer's commitment to pay for them. In the rare event that he pays cash, the shop gets value for the goods on the spot. If he pays with a cheque, the shop must give the cheque to its bank for collecting. If the cheque returns, Harry or his employees must re-present it or pursue Tom for the money.

If, however, Tom produces his credit card, the procedure is quite different. In the first place, Harry will get out a large bulky object, known in Hebrew slang as an "iron," as in to iron one's clothes, and insert the card in a slit in this contraption. Then he will extract the relevant sales slip for the card that Tom has proffered. He will then "iron" the details of Tom's card onto the sales slip, shunting the "iron" to and fro until it makes sufficient impact.

This done, he will record, in pen (as in "where's the damn pen gone, I had it a minute ago") the amount and perhaps even the description of the purchase. Tom will then sign the completed sales slip – after checking it, if he's careful. Harry should then verify Tom's signature by comparing the one on the card with the one on the sales slip. Ninety-nine out of 100 Israeli vendors don't, but that, as they say, is their problem. Harry should, by the way, have verified whether the card is still valid, at the beginning of this procedure.

He will then return the card and the customer's copy of the sales slip to Tom, remembering that each card's sales slip is designed differently, so that the customer's copy will vary accordingly.

After this he will probably knock off for a well-deserved tea-break. But wait! What if Tom's purchase is so large as to require checking that he is good for the money (most card companies require this for amounts above NIS 100 or at most NIS 200)? What if Tom looks suspicious – or is known to Harry as having had, or being likely to have, problems meeting the payment?

In any of these cases, Harry will have to mumble an excuse and amble off to a phone, preferably not within Tom's earshop, to obtain clearance from the card-issuer. This takes time and is embarrassing, but has to be done. The card company is obliged to pay any sales slip presented to it by outlets that have signed up with it – but only if the conditions it stipulates, as to amounts and other validation procedures, have been followed.

In short, from the customer's and the retailer's point of view, the transaction is time-consuming, cumbersome and, for various reasons, costly – although still preferable in many ways to cheque purchases. But that's not the end of it – not by a long shot.

Harry collects the sales slips he has processed every day or two, or however often he feels is necessary, and sends them to the card company. This he usually does through the nearest branch of the bank that issues the card – which requires him to have at least two bank accounts, thus further complicating his bookkeeping. The branch sends them on to the card company, which employs squads consisting mainly of women, for processing.

In Harry's case, the sales slip is probably a short one, which includes the card's account number, name and expiration date, as well as the number of the slip, which becomes the transaction number for reference purposes. The amount of the transaction, which Harry wrote in pen, will have to be punched in by a card company employee, so that the processing of sales slip is lengthened and the percentage of mistakes is increased.

If Harry had more sophisticated equipment, he could use a long sales slip – at least for Visacard purposes – and include the amount and the date of the transaction. This longer slip could then be read by a machine *in toto*, and only if it contained a mistake would it have to be checked. But both long and short slips tend to come in massive bunches at specific times of the month, resulting in the effecient usage of both labour (night-shifts and overtime) and machinery (idle capacity for much of the month) at the credit card companies.

CASE 2: Compare, then, what happens when Dick makes a purchase at Fred's shoe-shop, after Fred has invested $2,300 in a computer-terminal that is linked to the shop's phone and gives an itemized print-out on a sales-slip that, when signed by the customer, becomes a receipt as well as a confirmation.

Dick selects the goods and, as Tom did, produces his credit card. Fred takes the card and, without looking at it, shoves it through a groove on his machine that "reads" the card's magnetic strip. The machine compares the card with its memorized "blacklist" of stolen, lost or otherwise invalid cards. Since the memory is limited and cannot hold all the details of all invalidated cards, a back-up system exists in which the machine phones the card company's computer and gets an OK. The back-up system checks cards at random, usually once in five or once in ten transactions.

Furthermore, if Fred doesn't like Dick's looks, he can make his own validation by the same direct method – no switchboards, no words spoken, no time wasted trying to get through. The same goes for large amounts.

The card having been authorized, the machine proceeds to its next task, namely data capture. Fred punches in the details of the transaction – amount, date, code of the product, etc. – and the computer registers it all and spews out a sales slip with all the foregoing, including full details of Dick's card. Dick signs the said slip, Fred verifies his signature, gives him one copy and keeps the other for himself – and that's that. Dick toddles off with his new shoes, and Fred is on to the next customer without a thought of stopping for tea. But wait! What about sending the data to the card company?

Worry not, everything is taken care of by the computer. Fred's machine keeps squirreling away the data in its electronic bowels until, at the end of the day, Fred presses a button and the thing closes its books and gives him a total for the day, split between cash, cheque and cards, on an hourly basis, if he wants. It can also be programmed to see to inventory management, and other boring chores.

That night, while Fred is sound asleep, the Tandem computer of Sheba Ltd. (see box) which is the host to all the French-made CKD terminals that Fred and others use in this system, phones round to Fred and all the other outlets and extracts the details of the credit card purchases made during the day, leaving a print-out of the totals, and their breakdown between the different cards, for Fred to check in the morning. The Tandem also updates the terminal's blacklist.

Sheba's Tandem should finish the job by communicating directly to the computers at Visa, Isracard and Diner's Club, giving them the news of the day's purchases. However, this stage of the process is not yet on-line. Instead, Sheba sends the data on magnetic tapes to each of the card companies every couple of days. But this eliminates the bunching problem for the 20 card-companies, and saves vast sums from their wage bills, as well as being far more accurate.

It will be seen that the computer outlets at the retailers are on-line, but do not operate on real-time – they store up the data and transmit it later. It is technically feasible, but far too costly to set-up the system to work in real-time, and there is no major advantage to be gained that could justify the heavy expense involved.

Having outlined how EFT/POS works in concrete terms, the next article will trace the development of the system until now and examine where it might go from here.

Alphabet soup review

Here is a summary of the key acronyms, initials and terminology used so far in this series:

EFT: Electronic Funds Transfer – the recording of the respective debits and credits of the parties to a transaction in the electronic form and their communication between computers.

POS: Point of Sale – the place where the transaction takes place – eg. shop, filling station, automated teller machine (ATM) at a bank, etc.

EFT/POS: Electronic Funds Transfer at the Point of Sale – combines the foregoing by the vendor communicating the details of the transaction in question directly from his computer terminal to that of the bank or credit card company that processes the transaction and makes the debit and credit accordingly.

EPOS: Electronic Point of Sale – the vendor's check-out counter or transaction-processing system works electronically, ie., it feeds the details of the transaction to the shop's computer. The transfer of the funds, however, is not done from the point of sale directly, but by the vendor's "back-office" system.

ON-LINE: A computer terminal connected directly to the system's main computer, so that every transaction it handles is fed directly to the organization's headquarters. For example, an ATM may allow cash withdrawals whether it is on-line or not. But if it is, it will also communicate each withdrawal to the main computer of the bank to whose network it belongs.

REAL-TIME: The instantaneous recording of transactions at terminals by the central computer. Thus an ATM may be "on-line" but only communicate its transactions to its central computer once or twice a day. These are then not received in real-time, and the account is therefore not updated with them. Conversely, if every transaction is sent through directly and immediately, the system is said to be working "on-line and real-time," so that a person drawing NIS 100 from an ATM anywhere in the country and then going to another place and asking for his account balance, will find it updated by the amount drawn. His branch, too, will have his new balance immediately, and will act on that basis.

SHEBA: The Hebrew acronym for *Sherutei Bank Automatiim*, or Automated Banking Services Ltd., a company owned by the five main banking groups. The company planned and is overseeing the Israeli EFT/POS framework and is also co-ordinating the integration of the different banks' ATM networks.

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TOGEL ADV.

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Trade boycott hurts academia in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AFP). – South African academic researchers have suffered a severe blow with the announcement by a U.S. company that it was terminating the only available microfilm reference service to faculties here, education officials said here yesterday.

In the most drastic development to date in the growing international boycott of South African faculties, the University Microfilms International (UMI) company, a subsidiary of Bell and Howell, said in a letter sent to local universities that it was terminating the service.

Bell and Howell, one of a growing number of U.S. firms which have sold off their local interests in South Africa, said in its letter that it was against company policy to retain links with any South African institution.

Shocked lecturers at Johannesburg's multiracial Witwatersrand University warned that they would now have difficulty keeping abreast of research done abroad. All masters and doctoral students in specialized areas need to use the microfilms, one scholar said.

U.S. RICE FARMERS are to receive $337 million in "deficiency subsidies" as payment for their participation in government programmes in 1986, the Agriculture Department said here Monday.

Such deficiency payments are due to farmers when market prices drop below a targeted level during part of a given marketing year and are meant to make up for the difference between the targeted level and the actual market price, or between the target price and the price support loan rate, whichever is higher.

Under a similar agreement, cotton farmers will be given about $450m., in addition to the $537m. they already collected in advance deficiency payments, for a total of about $987m., the officials said.

'No breaking even for J'lem hotels'

By KEN SCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. – Jerusalem hotels had a 54.93 per cent occupancy rate last year, according to figures released on Monday, substantially below the rate the industry must register to break even.

Although comparable 1985 figures were unavailable, Leslie Adler, vice president of the Israel Hotel Association, said the association's 1986 figures were well under those registered the previous year and far below the occupancy rate of 60 per cent which he estimated was needed for the average hotel to make a profit.

Of the 25 hotels listed, only nine had occupancy rates higher than 60 per cent and several had rates below 40 per cent. In all, 950,430 rooms were booked in Jerusalem last year.

Adler, general manager of the Basel Group Hotels, said that in past years the break-even point for Israeli hotels was 50 per cent. But recent economic pressures have pushed that figure to 60 per cent, he said. In "most advanced countries" the rate is 40 per cent, he added.

Adding to the economic pressures on Jerusalem hoteliers will be construction of new hotels that will add about 1,000 new rooms this year to the already saturated market, Adler said.

Nationwide, Adler said, the hotel industry is facing a crisis spawned by rising expenses, a drop in U.S. tourism and cut-throat competition.

Payroll and food costs grew "by leaps and bounds" in 1986, Adler said, as did secondary costs like laundry and municipal taxes.

"Had occupancy not dropped," Adler said, "the cost rises alone would have caused a drop in profits or an increase in loss, depending on the hotel."

While the recent 10 per cent devaluation of the shekel benefitted the hotels, Adler said, the effect was blunted almost immediately when hotel employees won a 10 per cent wage increase above the cost-of-living allowances.

"It already looks as if the benefits of the 10 per cent devaluation will be swallowed up by price increases," said Adler.

Adler said that the hardest hit by the drop in U.S. tourism during 1986 were the five-star hotels.

Even if Israel witnesses a surge in European tourism, Adler said, it won't make up for the free-spending Americans. A cause of concern for the long term, he said, is the fact that many tour operators went out of business during the 1986 slump, including many with contacts in the vital "pilgrim market" that brings Christians from the American south and midwest.

"This is a serious problem," he said. "It's a very specialized kind of business. The marketing infrastructure is not there at the moment. This was the type of tourist that was filling Jerusalem."

The tourism slump last year also helped trigger a price war among hotels eager to fill empty rooms, Adler said, and this further ate into profits.

Adler is particularly critical of government policy, which, he said, allows hotel costs to rise without providing compensation.

"Hotels should indirectly be compensated, for example, by a special tourist dollar," he said. This would encourage tourism by granting travellers a better exchange rate.

MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

Making whoopee

The mutual funds had an absolute ball in January, in every respect. Not only did every single mutual fund, bar one, give a better return than the assumed 3 per cent rise in the Consumer Price Index, but the fund industry as a whole saw an increase in assets of 22.3 per cent in the month, or NIS 519 million.

Taking yield performance first, the monthly report on the fund sector from the Meitav consultancy company gives the following summary statistics:

Expected CPI – 3%
Shekel devaluation vs. basket – 11.2%
Shekel devaluation vs. U.S. dollar – 8%
Shekel devaluation vs. DMark – 17.7%
Average for dollar-linked bonds – 3.3%
Arrangement shares – 4%
Average for index-linked bonds – 10.0%
Free (non-arrangement) shares – 24.7%
Index of all mutual funds – 9.6%
Index of mutual funds specializing in shares – 18.3%
Index of mutual funds specializing in government bonds – 8.8%
Index of mutual funds specializing in foreign currency – 4.4%
Index of mutual funds specializing in arrangement shares – 4.9%

In its detailed breakdown of the performance of the mutual funds, Meitav found that out of 123 active funds, 9 achieved between 20 and 23.4 per cent yields over the month, 14 hit between 15 and 20 per cent, 30 between 10 and 15 per cent, 59 between 5 and 10 per cent, 10 between 3 and 5 per cent and only one rose by less than 3 per cent.

Surprisingly, perhaps, the positive overall performance did not match that of the share market itself. As noted, the non-bank index rose by 24.7 per cent, but the two top mutual funds, even though specializing in shares, only managed 23.4 per cent (the Esh fund, managed by Mirit-Silberman, which really caught fire), and 23.1 per cent (the Lapid fund from Unitrust, a veritable torch lighting the way).

This shows quite clearly that the fund managers were not fully invested in advance of the rally and were not able to deploy their money in the market once the rally got under way. It may also indicate that they were in the wrong share sectors, not having sufficiently broadened out from last year's successes to the new hits of this year, such as Elron and Elbit, and the mortgage banks.

It also explains the events of the last few days, when those fund managers who were exploding with new money forced it into the share market, despite the high price level already there. While on Sunday they swept all before them, on Monday and even more so yesterday, they met heavy selling from others cashing in some of their enormous profits.

The different market strategies employed in recent months by the main fund managers are highlighted by another set of figures published this week, showing the relative market shares of the 20 main groups, and their total assets managed.

The clear conclusion is that the aggressive fund managers have reaped the reward in recent months as the share market has picked up steam. Buyers of index-linked bonds also did better than those who kept their money in unlinked Treasury bills.

Thus the big loser is undoubtedly the Leumi-PIA group, which slipped from a market share of 48.2 per cent of total fund assets at the end of 1985, to 45.2 per cent a year later, before plunging a further 2.6 per cent in January alone, to 42.6 per cent. Discount's Ilanot group also fell in 1986, from 16.2 to 15.4 per cent, but recovered to 15.8 per cent at the end of January.

Everyone else gained in relative terms (even the losers gained in absolute terms). Hapoalim moved up from 22.4 to 24.7 during 1986, and reached 25 per cent at the end of January. Mizrahi, after a slight gain from 4.6 to 4.9 per cent last year, shot ahead to 5.4 per cent last month, and First International, which gained sharply from 3.1 to 3.7 per cent over 1986, reached 4 per cent at the end of January.



Audiophiles examine the goods at the Stereo '87 exhibition at the Tel Aviv Hilton. The show closes on Thursday night. (Isaiah Karlinsky)

HOSTAGES

(Continued from Page One)

Washington would pay dearly for any military attack.

A leading Syrian newspaper said yesterday the U.S. was "playing with fire" in the Middle East and warned that any military move against Lebanon could spark an explosion: "It is now clear from the recent American military build-up and hostile statements that Washington is planning a *large-scale military* operation in the region, where Lebanon will be the starting-point," the government daily *Tishrin* said.

A Moslem political source in Beirut told Reuters last night that missing Briton Terry Waite, just nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, was still in Moslem-controlled West Beirut, where an anti-kidnap protest strike paralysed normal activity.

In London, 15 British parliamentarians from all parties had nominated Waite for the Nobel Peace Prize. They said in a letter to the Norwegian Nobel committee: "It is our belief that the patient, quiet, yet extraordinarily effective diplomacy of Mr. Waite is one of the shining lights in the much-troubled Middle East."

Druse militia leader Walid Jumblatt and Shi'ite Amal chief Nabih Berri said Monday after meeting Syrian Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam that Waite had been "arrested" but not kidnapped. They did not make clear the distinction.

British Ambassador John Gray said his embassy had no firm news of Waite, but was pursuing contacts with Moslem militias in West Beirut to try to determine his whereabouts.

"There are various rumours. But I'm looking for hard evidence," he said. Some recent reports have speculated that Waite, who disappeared two weeks ago, had been taken to the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley.

A middleman for the West German government has returned to the Middle East to pursue negotiations, aimed at freeing two Germans held by *Shi'ite Moslem extremists*, sources in Frankfurt said yesterday. The sources said the government had received signals that hostages Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt are in good health.

Meanwhile, a new Syrian-backed drive to curb militia lawlessness in the Moslem sector of Beirut started quietly yesterday amid renewed battles between Palestinians and Shi'ite Moslem militiamen around two Beirut area refugee camps.

Witnesses said several militia offices closed down in the seafront Ain Mreisseh district, and Syrian soldiers were seen in the main Hamra shopping street. But there was no sign of a major crackdown to restore Lebanese state authority.

West Beirut shops, schools, universities and banks closed in response to a strike called by students and faculty at *Beirut University College* in protest at the detention of the four foreign lecturers abducted on January 24.

More than 500 students and academics marched through the streets with banners demanding the release of the four – Americans Robert Polhill, Alan Steen and Jesse Turner and Indian Mithileshwar Singh, who has U.S. immigration rights.

The strike badly disrupted Lebanon's telex and telephone links with the outside world.

Retired officers to become teachers

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. – Tsevet, the association of retired army personnel – has organized a programme to train officers who have finished their army careers to become teachers, principals and possibly educational inspectors.

The programme, which has the support of the Education Ministry, is *open to individuals who have at least* a bachelor's degree.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Tsevet at 32 Ben Yehuda Street, Tel Aviv, 03-210583.

Plan agreed on to bail out moshavim

By ANDY COURT
For The Jerusalem Post

A plan for repaying the debts of the moshavim affiliated with Herut and those in the Jerusalem corridor was agreed on yesterday by the committee charged with solving the problem of debts owed by the moshavim to their purchasing organizations.

The committee charged with untangling the web of debts connecting this country's moshavim to their various purchasing organizations agreed yesterday on a plan for dealing with the debts of the Herut-affiliated moshavim and the Jerusalem corridor moshavim.

The 13 moshavim of the Herut-Betar movement will have $7.5 million of their debts rescheduled over 10-20 years at 8 per cent interest according to committee chairman Shimon Ravid.

In addition, the Jewish Agency will grant the moshavim $500,000.

The 40 Jerusalem-area moshavim will have $10 million of their debts paid their creditor by banks and the Jewish Agency, and they will be given 7-15 years to repay additional debts of $40m.

Two moshavim will be turned into community settlements.

Next week, the committee will take up the problems of the Hapoel Hamizrahi moshavim, which belong to the National Religious Party.

Known as the Ravid Committee, after its chairman, the committee is composed of representatives of the Treasury, Agriculture Ministry, Bank Hapoalim, Bank Leumi, and the Jewish Agency. The committee has established a series of "regional committees" which take on the problems of moshavim in specific areas or of moshavim belonging to a certain purchasing organization.

The debt-rescheduling agreements will allow the purchasing organizations of the Betar and Jerusalem corridor moshavim to continue buying equipment and running certain regional operations such as packing houses.

Outcry over welfare

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The Histadrut and the left-wing opposition parties were up in arms yesterday against the Treasury's plan to introduce changes in regulations on welfare allowances, which, they said, would lead to a 10 per cent reduction in their value from April.

Under the Treasury's plan, the allowances paid by the National Insurance Institute to the aged, widows and handicapped will be *linked to the official figure for the* average wage in the economy, instead of being linked to the Consumer Price Index. The official wage figure lags behind the current wages by three months. The NII has already calculated that the change will erode allowances by 10 per cent.

MK Ran Cohen, of the Citizens Rights Movement, yesterday submitted an urgent motion to include the issue in the Knesset plenum's agenda.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:

General Share Index	114.71+0.12%
Non-Bank Index	128.03–0.55%
Arrangement	105.62+0.67%
Insurance	118.29–1.13%
Commerce, Services	125.26–0.98%
Real Estate	123.51–0.86%
Industrials	129.59–0.35%
Textiles	126.58–1.37%
Metals	120.00–0.27%
Electronics	136.68+0.01%
Chemicals	129.35–0.71%
Industrial Invst.	143.39+0.57%
Investment Cos.	134.37–0.58%
General Bond Index	111.05+0.47%
Index-linked Bonds	112.13+0.48%
Fully-linked	114.31+0.75%
Partially-linked	108.72+0.03%
Dollar-linked Bonds	104.52+0.40%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	107.30+0.17%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	110.54+0.35%
Long-term 5+ yrs	113.21+0.64%

Turnovers:

Shares – total	NIS 19,299,300
Arrangement	NIS 2,207,200
Non-bank	NIS 17,092,100
Bonds – total	NIS 8,704,900
Index-linked	NIS 5,121,200
Dollar-linked	NIS 3,583,900
Treasury Bills	NIS21,274,000

Share Movements:

Advances	101	(158)
of which 5%+	16	(34)
"buyers only"	2	(2)
Declines	174	(122)
of which 5%+	43	(20)
"sellers only"	1	(2)
Unchanged	121	(112)
Trading Halt	28	(30)

Bond Market Trends:

Index-linked:	
3% fully-linked	Mixed between 1-2%
4.25% fully-linked	Slightly rises
80% linked	Stable/mixed between 1-2%
Double-linked	:Slightly falls to 3%
Dollar-linked:	
Admon	Slightly rises
Rimon	Rises to 2%
Gilboa	Rises to 2%
For. Curr. denominated	Mixed to 1%
Treasury Bills (annual yield)	21.05-21.95%

Arrangement yields:

IDB ord.	17.09%
Union 0.1	16.76%
Discount A	16.72%
Mizrahi r.	16.98%
Hapoalim r.	16.37%
General A	16.87%
Leumi stock	16.64%
Fin. Trade 1	16.84%

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume '000NIS	% change
Commercial Banks (not part of "arrangement")			
Maritime	1767	3857	–0.6
General non-arr.	24675	b.o.1	+5.0
First Int'l	5352	2869	–0.1
FIBI	6370	5892	–1.7
Commercial Banks (part of "arrangement")			
IDBr	88410	556	–
Union 0.1	66100	99	–
Discount	113460	145	+0.7
Mizrahi	36440	575	–
Hapoalim r	60700	428	+0.8
General A	154000	37	–
Leumi 0.1	38420	1877	+1.1
Fin. Trade	50800	5	–
Mortgage Banks			
Leumi Mort. r	11130	352	–
Dev. Mort.	3470	1824	+1.5
Mishkan r	3960	2324	–0.5
Tefahot r	20880	158	–0.5
Merav r	8313	338	–1.0
Financial Institutions			
Agric C	187000	8	+10.0
Ind. Dev. DD	65801	–	–
Clal Leasing 0.1	22650	54	–7.4
Insurance			
Ararat 0.1 r	1730	962	–5.3
Haseneh r	415	52314	–
Phoenix 0.1	920	6734	–
Hamishmar	7000	139	–1.4
Menorah 1	2630	156	–
Sahar r	7022	851	–
Zion Hold. 1	10542	20	+1.0
Trade & Services			
Meir Ezra	1475	5405	+3.1
Supersol 2	10960	1811	–1.0
Delek r	4435	2042	–1.1
Lighterage	21210	114	+1.0
Cold Storage	1256	3835	–0.9
Dan Hotels	1783	250	–0.9
Yerden Hotel	2630	142	–3.6
Hilon 1		no trading	
Team 1	1030	4363	–5.6
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Azorim	1070	12666	–
Eilon	564	21897	–5.1
Africa Isr. 0.1	48350	160	–
Dankner	5005	293	–1.9
Prop. & Bldg.	4830	1301	–0.4
Bayside 0.1	5598	772	–0.4
ILDC r	80100	201	+1.1
Rassco r	6650	527	+3.0
Mehadrin	12100	405	–
Hadarim	1835	2465	–
Industrials			
Dubek b	5510	2886	+2.8
Pri-Ze 1		no trading	
Sunfrost	13700	182	–
Elite	20010	390	+0.8
Adgar	720	11000	–4.0
Argaman r	17450	83	–
Delta G 1	4130	1771	–
Maquette 1	4680	697	–6.4
Eagle 1	21770	26	–1.0
Polgat	5070	971	–
Schoellerina	15450	134	–4.6
Rogosin	2770	543	–0.1
Urdan 0.1 r	8570	683	–5.1
Is. Can Co. 1	3680	2231	–2.1
Zion Cables	2770	747	–4.8
Pecker Steel	18810	395	+10.0
Elbit	530000	14	–0.2
Elron	471000	24	+3.7
Arit	31250	100	–3.1
Clal Electronics	2570	5004	–5.2
Spectronix 1	2730	1572	–1.8
T.A.T. 1	5703	586	–
Ackerstein 1	1050	3000	–4.5
Agan 5	17700	71	–1.1
Alliance	2320	929	–7.2
Dexter	3320	253	+3.8
Fertilisers	5145	185	+5.0
Haifa Chem.	672	10322	–
Teva r	12880	1915	–2.1
Dead Sea r	3597	6902	+0.1
Petrochem.	650	32242	–0.5
Neca Chem.	6990	500	–
Frutarom	15151	7	–
Hadera Paper	376000	69	+1.6
Central Trade	11140	914	–0.1
Koor p	9465000	1	–
Clal Inds.	2440	20162	+1.2
Investment Companies			
IDB Dev. r	7358	2666	–0.0
Ellern	4879	3831	–3.4
Afik 1	318	15237	–9.9
Gahelet	1400	457	–6.7
Israel Corp. 1	15450	1031	–
Wolfson 1 r	132000	7	+3.9
Hapoalim Inv.	9234	1023	–
Discount Invest.	4442	2507	–1.3
Mizrahi Invest.	30400	22	–5.6
Clal 10	1338	12410	–0.1
Landeco 0.1	3190	486	–2.4
Pama 0.1	12499	117	–0.0
Oil Exploration			
Paz Oil Expl.	27560	254	–0.2
J.O.E.L.	4800	1909	–2.2

Abbreviations:
s.o. sellers only **b bearer**
b.o. buyers only **r registered**

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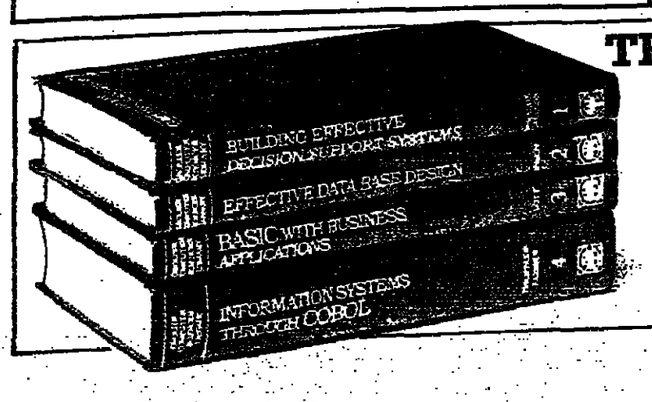
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The study day scheduled for Thursday, February 5

HAS BEEN POSTPONED



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FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.58% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	Last Updated	Tapas	Pakam 7-Day	Pakam 30-Day
LEUMI	3.2	8-18.25%	9-19.25%	12-21.75%
HAPOALIM	27.1	8-17.00%	9-17.50%	12-20.50%
DISCOUNT	17.12	7-16.00%	8-16.20%	14-18.50%
MIZRAHI	1.12	8-17%	6-17.50%	6-19.50%
FIRST INT'L	13.1	10-16%	11-17.7%	13-20.04%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Tapas: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 59 days.)

PATAH — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (February 3)

MINIMUM DEP	3–MONTHS	6–MONTHS	12–MONTHS
USD ($100,000)	5.500	5.375	5.375
STG (10,000 pounds)	9.375	9.375	9.250
DMK (100,000 marks)	3.125	3.125	3.250
SFR (50,000 francs)	2.625	2.750	2.750
YEN (3,000,000 yen)	2.625	2.625	2.500

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES (February 3)

		CHEQUES AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates
Currency basket	1	1.6660	1.6870	—	—	1.6757
U.S.A. Dollar	1	1.5970	1.6170	1.56	1.63	1.6068
Deutschmark	1	0.8912	0.9023	0.87	0.91	0.8970
Pound Sterling	1	2.4426	2.4732	2.38	2.49	2.4546
French Franc	1	0.2671	0.2704	0.26	0.27	0.2682
Japanese Yen	100	1.0493	1.0624	1.02	1.07	1.0557
Dutch Florin	1	0.7906	0.8005	0.77	0.81	0.7953
Swiss Franc	1	1.0569	1.0702	1.03	1.08	1.0634
Swedish Krone	1	0.2478	0.2509	0.24	0.25	0.2493
Norwegian Krone	1	0.2301	0.23330.22	0.23	0.2316	
Danish Krone	1	0.2353	0.2383	0.23	0.24	0.2369
Finnish Mark	1	0.3542	0.3586	0.35	0.36	0.3566
Canadian Dollar	1	1.1978	1.2128	1.17	1.22	1.2061
Australian Dollar	1	1.0620	1.0753	0.98	1.08	1.0684
S. African Rand	1	0.7766	0.7863	0.50	0.60	0.7828
Belgian Franc	10	0.4237	0.4290	0.41	0.43	0.4330
Austrian Shilling	10	1.2663	1.2821	1.24	1.29	1.2755
Italian Lira	1000	1.2516	1.2672	1.22	1.28	1.2586
Jordanian Dinar						
Egyptian Pound	1	—	—	0.79	0.84	0.8596
ECU	1	1.8321	1.8550	—	—	1.8460

SUPPLIED BY **BANK LEUMI**

EUROPEAN FINANCIAL MARKETS

(February 3)
PRECIOUS METALS

GOLD:	LONDON	A.M. FIX	402.00	P.M. FIX	404.00
	PARIS	NOON FIX	406.26	ZURICH P.M.	401.95
SILVER:	LONDON	FIX	548.50		
PLATINUM:	LONDON	P.M.	519.00		
PALLADIUM:	LONDON	P.M.	123.90		

FOREIGN CURRENCY CROSS RATES (London 15.30GMT)
Forward Rates
(February 3)

	SPOT	2 MTHS	3 MTHS	6 MTHS
DEUTSCHMARK	1.7915/30	64/61	94/91	186/181
POUND STERLING	1.5280/90	120/118	180/178	366/362
SWISS FRANC	1.5145/60	70/65	99/94	192/182
JAPANESE YEN	152.22/32	52/50	72/70	137/132
FRENCH FRANC	5.9800/30	290/310	440/470	850/900
ITALIAN LIRA	1278.00/50	825/965	1385/1485	2675/2775
DUTCH GULDEN	2.0215/25	30/27	48/44	99/93
BELGIAN FRANC	37.105/120	11/13	15/18	28/33
DANISH KRONE	6.7950/00	475/525	675/725	1325/1425
S.AFRICAN RAND	0.4853/60	15/10	21/16	80/70
EUROPEAN CURR. UNIT	1.1455/60	24.5/21.5	36/32	70/64
FINNISH MARK	4.5000/20	525/565	775/825	1600/1700
AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	0.6651/56	86/83	123/118	213/207
NORWEGIAN KRONE	6.9280/10	940/970	140/1470	2900/2950

Formula for determining forward rates:
high/low (eg. 220/210) — deduct from spot price.
low/high (eg. 210/220) — add to spot price.

U.S. MONEY RATES

Prime 7.50%; Broker 7.25%; NY Euros 3 months 6 5/16–3/16%; Fed Funds late 6%

NEW YORK FOREIGN EXCHANGE

	DMK	SFR	STG	YEN	CAN
PREVIOUS CLOSE	1.8075/85	1.5235/45	1.5205/15	152.50/60	1.3335/40
OPENING	1.79485/55	1.5155/65	1.5245/55	152.20/30	1.3332/37
LATEST	1.7985/95	1.5190/00	1.5282/92	152.48/55	1.3326/31

Comment

The dollar edged higher in dull range trading yesterday as players moved to the sidelines in the absence of any fresh news. Despite sturdy end-1986 economic statistics, doubts lingered about the U.S. economy's progress in the current quarter and beyond, and about the administration's ability to pare its gaping trade deficit without a further dollar decline.

ISRAELI STOCKS

TRADED IN NEW YORK:

NYSE and ASE

	Last	Prev. Close	High	Low	Vol ('00s)
Alliance	2⅛	1⅝	2⅛	1¾	13
Am Isr Pap	22⅝	23¼	23	22⅝	25
Ampal	1¾	1¾	1¾	1¾	53
Elscint	2	1⅞	2	1⅞	81
Etz Lavud	9¼	9¾	9½	9¼	11
Laser Inds	12¾	12¾	12¾	12⅝	69

Over the counter

	last	bid	ask		last	bid	ask
Aryt	—	6⅛	6⅝				
Bank Leumi	—	22	24	Interpharm	—	3⅞	4½
Elbit	9½	9¼	9½	Oprotech	6⅛	5⅝	6⅛
ECI Tel.	2½	2½	2¾	Rada	—	2⅜	2⅝
Elron	8⅜	9⅜	8⅝	Scitex	4⅞	4¾	4⅞
Fibronics	8⅛	7⅛	8⅛	Taro-Vit	—	2¾	3
IDB Bank	—	51	55	Tevapharm	—	8⅞	9¼
IIS	3¾	3⅝	3⅞	SPI	—	2¼	2¾

NEW YORK FINANCIAL MARKETS

WALL STREET Closing Prices

Dow Jones Indices

IND	2,168.45	–10.97	ATT	23⅜	– ⅞
TRANS	891.84	+ 9.94	TEXACO	38⅝	+ ⅜
UTILS	226.45	+ 0.46	NAT SEMI	15	+ ½
65 STKS	829.75	+ 0.37	AM MED INT	19¼	+1⅜
NYSE COMP	157.28	– 0.17	IBM	133¼+1	
NYSE INDS	184.79	– 0.01	UNOCAL CP	29⅛	– ⅜
NASD COMP	399.35	+ 2.17	ADV MICRO	21⅛	+2⅛
S-P 100 INDEX	264.64	– 0.89	UNION CARB	25⅞	+ ⅛
S-P COMPOSITE	275.99	– 0.46	GEN MOTORS	76⅜	–1½
AMEX INDEX	305.56	+ 1.41	DEERE	27½	UNCH

NYSE Highest Volume

Statistics

NYSE VOL. 197,433,200 STOCKS UP 676 DOWN 582
NASDAQ VOL. 149,051,300 (Feb. 2) STOCKS UP 1,420 DOWN 829

Comment

Wall Street stock prices closed mixed in active trading yesterday. The blue chip average was whittled down by profit taking and sporadic arbitrage-related sell programmes throughout the day, but the broader market managed to post a small gain as dollar-sensitive issues rose.

OVERSEAS FINANCIAL DATA
PROVIDED BY REUTERS MONITOR

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The bark and the bite

HAVING tried and failed to ransom, by means of a political arms deal with Iran, the American hostages held by pro-Iranian Shi'ite groups in Lebanon, the U.S. finds itself truly in a quandary.

Now that Lebanon has been declared off limits to U.S. citizens not on official duty, the taking of hostages among them may be expected to come to an end. But in the meantime a threat of "execution" is hanging over the heads of four American professors kidnapped in West Beirut last week by a terrorist group sporting the fresh name of the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, which may or may not be one of Hizbullah's many nicknames.

The group has threatened to kill all four next week, unless its demands are met. The demands include the release by Israel of 400 prisoners held – for terrorist activities – in the "security zone" of southern Lebanon, as well as the payment of $50 million for the U.S. hostages and for two West Germans also held hostage. Yesterday the Islamic Jihad called on all like-minded terrorist groups in Lebanon to murder their hostages, too, as a sign of solidarity.

The terrorists' tactic is to frighten the U.S. out of any intention to resort to military action in aid of the hostages. The American plan, in turn, must be to deter the terrorists by ominously sending the Sixth Fleet eastward toward Lebanon. What it is that the U.S. is actually prepared to do if the mad Shi'ites keep mocking the world's mightiest military machine by inviting it to sink in Lebanon's morass, is, however, less than clear.

America's trouble is that despite endless discussion of the issue, it has still not reached an internal consensus about the proper use of force in limited wars, and particularly in the protracted war on terrorism.

Already stung by accusations that its bid to Iran has undermined its anti-terrorist stance, the Reagan administration is not going to press Israel into releasing the 400 imprisoned terrorists, which Israel's leaders have already stated is out of the question. Nor is it likely that the administration will, in a reversal of policy, hire American surrogates to hit the terrorists in their own fashion.

Secretary of State George Shultz has suggested this week that America must be "prepared to use military force when we have a clear target and know precisely what we are doing."

Clear targets – headquarters, training grounds and storage facilities of the various Shi'ite terrorist groups – have been spotted by U.S. reconnaissance satellites in Lebanon, specifically in the Beka'a. But experience has shown that the terrorists can easily move around, moving their hostages with them. They will not, in any case, be extirpated by one massive blow.

The sad, and all too obvious, truth is that warships are not made to cope with terrorism. This does not mean that the U.S. needs to cease and desist from the effort. But it should see to it that its bark is not, as it has all too often been, far worse than its bite.

Perversions

SUPERSTITION is embedded, to a larger or smaller extent, in all religions, and Judaism is no exception. But Jews have long prided themselves on the fact – or what they assumed to be a fact – that in *their* religion such essentially pagan aberrations as magic and witchcraft play only a minor role.

To be sure, Jewish folklore is awash with irrationality, and in esoteric literature the great idea of man's moral responsibility for his acts in the eyes of God has been vulgarized into a folk doctrine of divine punishment for the lack of ritual punctiliousness. But the mainstream of Jewish religious thought has been mostly freed of the muddied waters of miracle working and shamanism.

Recently, in Israel, this has been changing. With the express blessing or at least the tacit approval of the state-backed rabbinical establishment, folklore has been ousting rationality and magic displacing morality. Fatal road accidents have been attributed by distinguished rabbis to faulty mezuzot and the desecration of the Shabbat, and women have been increasingly segregated by rabbinical fiat for fear that their "impurity" and "immodesty" might end up in the entire community being penalized.

The bizarre happenings in Netivot down south and in Migdal Ha'emek up north this week must unfortunately be viewed not so much as a departure from the national norm but rather as further evidence of a pernicious trend in which the sorcery is swallowing up Judaism's vital centre.

In Netivot, now renamed Netivot-Baba Sali, celebrations of the third anniversary of the death of the town's one-time most illustrious citizen, Rabbi Yisrael Abuhatzeira, better known as the Baba Sali, drew a crowd of over 50,000 from all parts of the country. An even larger crowd would probably have arrived on the scene but for the forecast of bad weather. For veneration of the Baba Sali, a patron saint of Moroccan Jewry and a regular miracle worker, has been assimilated into the organized effort of Moroccan Jews in Israel to assert their distinctive communal identity.

It might nevertheless have been expected that at least some Israelis of Moroccan extraction would raise their voices against a display of essentially non-Jewish superstition masquerading in North African Jewish garb? But no such voices were heard, perhaps for fear that those who uttered them might be condemned as traitors to their faith and tradition. Instead, the state itself in the persons of the Sephardi Chief Rabbi, the Housing Minister and the OC Southern Command, was on hand to lend legitimacy to occultism.

Meantime in Migdal Ha'emek both the Sephardi and Ashkenazi chief town rabbis barred women from taking part in funeral processions all the way to the deceased person's grave. The town, so it appears, has lately been afflicted with some tragedies, and the town idiots had called upon the rabbis to do something about it. So the rabbis, relying this time not on Halacha but on the Book of the Zohar, did.

If this miracle does not work, they will presumably try another tack: such as banning the participation of women in what to date have been mixed choirs.

Na'amat secretary-general Masha Lubelsky at once protested the Migdal Ha'emek edict, and the newly appointed adviser on women's affairs in the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Tova Lichtenstein, seconded her denunciation. But the chief rabbis, embarrassed though they may have been, are conveniently keeping their mouths shut, apparently waiting for the dust to settle.

But the dust will not settle. Israel, a modern democratic state, cannot keep aiding and abetting the perversion of the Jewish spiritual heritage without subverting itself.

In the Galut such manifestations of idolatry had limited reach precisely because of the fact of dispersion. In Israel, where the distinction between civil and religious authority is in accelerated erosion, a rabbinate cowed or hijacked by obscurantism or witchcraft, could abduct the polity.

Sex education: a must

Ram Ishai

THE ABORTION-related death of Yael Shriki, a 17-year-old high school student, was a personal and family tragedy. Her friends in school were filled with sorrow and anxiety not only because of the loss of a close friend but also because of fear that such a tragedy may happen again.

Pregnancy among teenagers is not a rare phenomenon – not only in developing countries but also in advanced states like the U.S. Such pregnancy is often coupled with feelings of guilt and failure. It publicly reveals the existence of sexual relations at such a young age along with the fear of the community's reaction. It may mean discontinuing regular studies, and often brings severe reactions from the family. In these cases, the community is most hypocritical.

In this age of permissiveness, teenagers indulge in sexual relations from a very young age, and often with more than one partner. The social commandment of virginity till marriage is regarded as anachronistic. But society has not adapted itself to the changing values. Sex education is inappropriate and insufficient, whether in the family or in school. Most adults do not know how to cope with the subject. Thus, some young women have clandestine relations without knowing about or using contraceptives and fear that their family will learn of the affair. Under such circumstances, the teenager is helpless and willing to accept any advice and any solution.

If unwanted pregnancy occurs, the girl has to have someone to confide in either in school or at home. Unfortunately, there are frequent unwanted pregnancies, especially in environments opposed to sexual activities.

Sex is an almost non-existent subject in school, and where it is taught, there is an emphasis on the abstract, on flora and fauna, ignoring the fact that the students are ripe for sexual activity or have already indulged in it without proper preparation. In many homes, the family does not help much as the subject is either avoided or is taboo.

WE MUST change our attitudes toward discussing the subject, in spite of our moral values, which are important in themselves. We cannot but expect catastrophes, when we keep knowledge from our young people. We have to aspire to a situation where it will not be necessary to perform abortions, and this can be achieved by proper sex education.

It should start at an early age in a most open manner and should be taught by competent teachers. Lectures by doctors and nurses were good at a time when the mere mention of sex was enough to cause embarrassment. Sex education should be a part of general education and integrated into the general curriculum.

The teachers should be well equipped with information and free from personal inhibitions. Only then would the students feel that the subject is neither taboo nor dirty. Students should be taught about the physiological causes of sexual desire. The alternative is either evasion or romanticism, full of illusions, and sexual activity along with ignorance and guilt feelings.

It has been said that a human being is neither an angel nor a beast; but when he tries to act like an angel, he turns into a beast. Parents and educators must accept the possibility of sexual relations among teenagers as reality. There is no need to deny it and thus cause tragedies.

Adults should be ready to explain and assist concerning contraceptives. Everything possible should be done to avoid unwanted pregnancy. However, should that occur, one should weigh the possibility of an abortion without shame or guilt feelings. Terminating a pregnancy is acceptable, unless there is a readiness to face the birth of an infant and the raising of it by a person who is still a child.

ISRAELI LAW allows the termination of pregnancy in many cases, especially when there is danger to the mother's health. The law is adapted to the values of the country and has been influenced by medicine, politics and religion.

In France, a very liberal law regarding abortions was introduced in 1975 by then health minister Simone Weil. She referred to the bill as "preventing illegal abortions by the underground." She thereby protested against the hypocrisy of the bill's opponents who hid their heads in the sand like ostriches. Weil disclosed that during that year there had been an average of 1,000 abortions per day in France, most of them performed under bad conditions which increased the risk to the patient.

The opponents of abortion in Israel also include those who are worried about the decrease in births. Experience has shown no relation between legislation on abortions and births. One example is Romania where abortions were legal for many years, but when abortions became illegal, their number increased.

The Israeli law actually determines the proportion between the number of certified abortions, performed in a hospital under good conditions, and abortions performed under less favourable conditions. Changing the law will not be enough, for it is not only a matter of legislation. Favourable conditions should be created to allow any girl in need to apply, without fear, and with easy access, to the abortion committee. At the same time let us remember that abortion is an aggressive act and anti-physiological. It is justified only in cases of emergency.

The real problem is the prevention of pregnancy, each abortion being a failure of communications in guidance and in education. Sex has to become a routine subject in schools until it is demythified and demystified. Educational Television should deal with the topic as it does with diets and physical education. Information from the mass media, which infiltrates into homes, will help educational and health workers. Without widespread knowledge, even a change in the law would prove insufficient.

The writer is head of the Israel Medical Association.

If you're going to be rude...

Macabee Dean

KNESSET members Yehoshua Matza and Haim Ramon, who recently hurled abuse at each other in the Finance Committee, should both hang their heads in shame. Not for their use of expletives, which is standard parliamentary procedure, but for the sheer poverty of their language.

Matza (Likud) is credited with calling Ramon a low blackmailer, child without a conscience, robber of public funds, hypocritical extortioner, etc.

Ramon (Labour) allegedly replied by calling Matza a demagogue, fascist, etc.

These insults show a lack of thought – imagination and inspiration.

We heard primary-school pupils using much richer language during a recess, including many Arabic words which seemed to centre on specific parts of the anatomy.

How can we expect these 12-year-old kids, with their better command of such words, to look up to and admire their national leaders?

But despite their adolescent superiority, their vocabulary was also limited and repetitive. They had to use Arabic words, and like their Knesset members they slipped off into several European languages.

Perhaps, we thought, the fault lies with modern Hebrew.

WE CHECKED with a Hebraic scholar. " Oh, no," she replied, "Hebraic sources are rich in curses. For example, a rough and unpolished translation would give us: (You are) worth as much as a garbage can, flea, narrow-minded, mindless, windbag, chatterer, despicable soul, zero, you are clouds and wind but no rain, and so on."

But, she admitted sadly, "Knesset members lack the richness of expression obtainable from Hebraic sources."

She made five "learned" exceptions, whom she believed, could let loose if they wanted, with ancient expletives which would melt a Hebrew scholar's heart: former Prime Minister Menachem Begin, and MKs Moshe Arens, Yosef Burg, Avraham Shapiro, and Yitzhak Moda'i. ("The latter does open his mouth, but as the Japanese say, he often puts his tongue in motion before putting his mind in gear.")

Today, to rectify our present deplorable condition we need an organization of learned persons to search the sources and publish a booklet on their findings. Knesset Members should also be forced to take advanced courses to upgrade their standards, the Hebrew Language Academy should devote itself to inventing new words, or adapting words from Arabic, and we should arrange annual contests in utilizing choice words which spring instinctively from sabras.

Israel has the intellectual manpower and drive to enrich the language. And financing can be found, even in these days of belt-tightening. Perhaps the bank managers could be persuaded to kick off a fund raising drive.

YET, IT would take many years to enrich our parliamentary vocabulary in invective, for some of our MKs are slow on the uptake. And even then, we will be weak, for they will use the curse words as a sort of reflex verbal vulgarism which often does not even attract attention. For example, today, when one MK calls another an idiot, does anybody really notice? The public accepts it as a fact of life.

Together with enlarging our basic vocabulary of swear words, we must develop a generation of leaders who are swift on the unconventional riposte.

Where, oh where, are our intellectual leaders who can compare with Western politicians and other personalities who prefer the rapier-swift innuendo to the blunt crudeness of the direct insult?

Some examples:

Aneurin Bevan on Harold Wilson: He is all facts – no bloody ideas.

Winston Churchill's reply to fellow MP Lady Asquith after she told Churchill that he was drunk. Churchill: Madam, I'm drunk and you're ugly. Tomorrow morning I'll be sober.

Barry Goldwater on Hubert Humphrey: He talks so fast that listening to him is like trying to read *Playboy* magazine with your wife turning the pages.

WHY ARE Israeli politicians so dependably dull compared to Americans and Europeans?

Let us end on an optimistic note. There is a proverb, variously attributed to Bialik or Jabotinsky, that the Jews would not be a normal people until they had their pimps, whores and thieves. We have come a long way since that statement was made, and if anything, in this restricted field at least, we can be considered super-normal (if this is not a contradiction in terms.)

What we have proudly accomplished in those fields of social development, we can certainly accomplish in our language.

Hebrew can – if we put our minds to it – also take its place in the ranks of rich modern languages, admired by others, for its richness in expletives and wisecracks. It can contain rip-roaring expressions which will make our ears curl in delight, our minds gasp with amusement, and our mouths roar with laughter.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post *editorial staff.*

Dry Bones



READERS' LETTERS

DANISH RESCUE OPERATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, – I read with great interest Ernie Meyer's article of January 16 "The making of a Righteous Gentile." It warmed my heart to read about these brave people who, in the darkness of the war, shone a light by saving Jewish lives.

As a second generation Danish Jew, I have, since my birth, heard my family tell about their escape for Sweden in October 1943. This rescue endangered the lives of several hundred Danish resistance men and women, including the fishermen who sailed my family and our fellow Jews to safety. With respect to what happened throughout occupied Europe, this action was without comparison and should not be forgotten.

Yad Vashem's Committee on Righteous Gentiles does not forget these people, so I was upset that Ernie Meyer did not mention them in his article. If it had not been for these brave Danes, it might not have been possible for me, as well as many other Danish Jews, to make aliya.

RON TSCHENIA
Kibbutz Lavi.

Ernie Meyer comments:

On this occasion, the emphasis was on the not-so-easily known individual persons in Nazi-occupied Europe who singly saved one or several Jewish persons – not necessarily the more extensive operations of underground networks, organizations and communities.

MORTGAGE RESTRICTIONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, – A delegation of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland which last week held its conference in Israel, together with the British Olim Society, called on the Minister of Housing, David Levy, to urge that the present restriction on government mortgages for olim to apartments not exceeding 120 sq. metres should be lifted. The delegation emphasised that they regarded this as an important step to promote aliya from Britain as well as to assist the full integration of new olim from Britain.

Mr. Levy promised to give the matter serious consideration.

The British Zionist Federation earlier raised the same issue with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and with the Minister of Absorption, Yaacov Tsur.

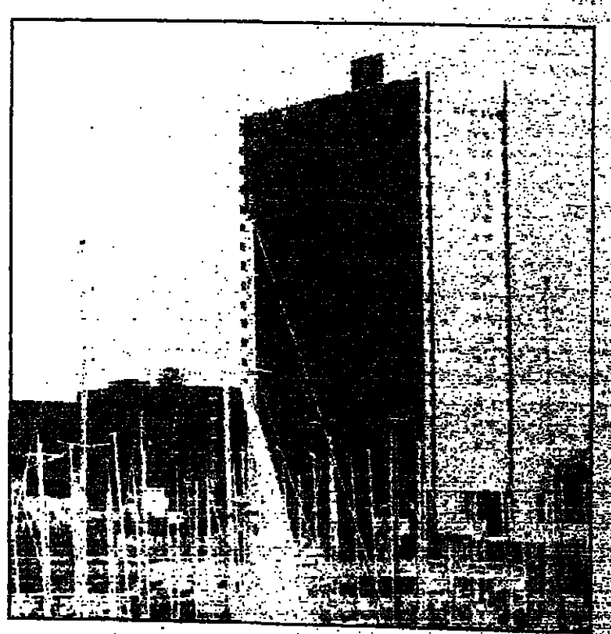
The British Olim Society participated in the delegation to Mr. Levy and a petition from some 300 British olim was handed to the prime minister.

The report published in your January 23 issue that Prime Minister Shamir has rejected the request of the British Zionist Federation was based on a misunderstanding. The prime minister, too, indicated that the request would receive consideration.

STEPHEN J. ROTH,
British Zionist Federation
London.

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